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NEWS BRIEFS

Hurt asks state to review complaints of excessive force

NEWARK — Essex County Prosecutor Patricia Hurt recently asked the state Attorney General's office to investigate whether or not Captain Durrell Dunson and his boss, Deputy Chief Priscilla Corcoran, used excessive force and falsified police reports during arrests they recently made.

Hurt is attempting to determine, as well, if the employer's direct boss was aware of their conduct prior to the investigation. Hurt, who will not conduct the investigation herself, has relegated Dunson to desk duty and has taken his weapon. Since no claims of excessive force were made against Corcoran, she was allowed to keep her weapon. The Attorney General's office says they were unsure about how long the investigation would take.

Whitman school safety plan includes police presence

TRENTON — Gov. James Whitman last week recommended that school districts hire police officers to help guarantee safety in classrooms and hallways. Whitman's plan is part of an anti-violence initiative that was put in place in response to the shooting by youth that have taken place at schools across the country.

Whitman's proposal is one of seven points in an overall plan to combat violence. Whitman's administration contends that the plan will have no significant cost. She discussed her plan after a panel discussion on youth violence held in New Brunswick.

New Jersey girl dies in Nigeria of malnutrition

NEWARK — An 11-year-old New Jersey girl left her sister in Nigeria in a bitter custody battle 10 months ago at a Nigerian hospital, authorities said recently. Nigerian authorities have not located Ogechi Anyanwu's remains or her sister, 13-year-old Uchechi, but charged the girls' uncle with murder.

The girls' father, Longy Anyanwu, has been jailed in New Jersey since August 1997 for refusing to provide information that would return his children to the country. He left his daughters in Nigeria with relatives

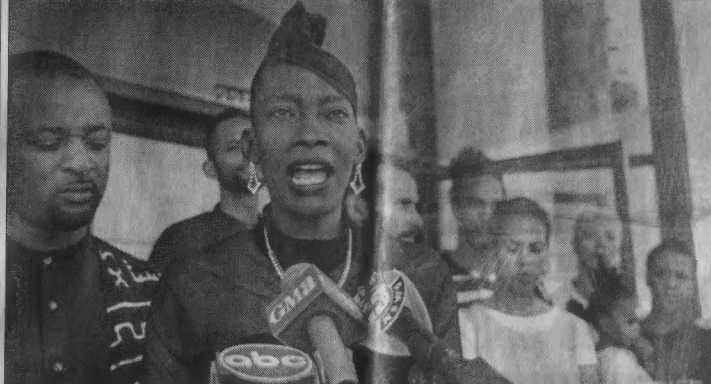
after vacationing there in July of last year. His estranged wife, Edith Anyanwu, of Dover, now full custody of the children last fall.

District must come up with a plan for integrating school

TRENTON — A state committee, comprised of members of the State Board of Education, recently told district of Englewood to come up with a plan to desegregate Dwight Morrow, an almost all-black high school. The decision came after the board, which was appointed last fall, had unsuccessfully to desegregate the school.

Attempts have been made by the state for more than ten years to come up with a plan to desegregate Dwight Morrow. According to reports, 97 percent of the school's 700 students are black and Hispanic.

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Yolanda Manuel, mother of 7-year-old murder victim Sherrice Iverson, speaks during a news conference in Los Angeles. Protesters, including Manuel, held a rally on the University of California, Berkeley's campus Wednesday, Aug. 26, to inform students of David Cash's presence. Cash is a possible witness to the murder of Iverson in a Primus, Nev., casino restroom May 25, 1997. (AP Photo/Kevin Galbraith)

Violent acts against 7-year-old prompts call for strong laws

By G. J. Matos
Staff Writer

Sherrice Iverson should be settling into her South Central Los Angeles school this week. She should be going into the third grade. She would, were she alive, probably be thinking about her teacher and "book" and weaving overboardwork clothes, playing with her friends and all the normal things school children have on their minds.

Thanks to Jeremy Strohmeyer and David Cash Jr., Sherrice is not doing any of those things.

Strohmeyer, 19, kidnapped, raped and strangled Sherrice Iverson in a bathroom stall at a Las Vegas-area casino on May 25, 1997. At the time, Sherrice was seven-years-old. Cash, a 19-year-old white student at the University of California, Berkeley, is Strohmeyer's best friend and was with him at the casino when the crime was committed. Instead of making an effort to help the child, he waited outside the bathroom for most of the 25 minutes that Strohmeyer was committing the crime.

The details of the murder are grisly. At one point Strohmeyer, who is reported to have a bizarre fascination with kiddie porn and has used racial epithets in describing the murder to his friends, picked up the child and, using both hands, twisted her head in an attempt to break her neck. Cash never

admitted Strohmeyer had killed Sherrice. The only thing he was interested in was the type of sexual act he performed on her.

"I don't know this little girl. I can't feel remorse for them," Cash said in a recent interview. "I'm not going to get upset over somebody else's life. I just worry about myself first."

While Sherrice is in her grave, and jury selection for the trial against Strohmeyer started at the end of August, Cash continues his studies in nuclear engineering. Under Nevada law, it is not a crime not to stop or prevent a murder. Sherrice's mother, Yolanda Manuel, led hundreds of demonstrators at a rally on the Berkeley campus to kick Cash out of school. "You do not need this guy in your school," Manuel told the demonstrators. "You do not need him sitting next to you in class."

The university Chancellor said he sympathized with Manuel, who makes a meager living as a cafeteria worker, but could not expel Cash because he "has not been charged with any violation of criminal law or the campus (student) code."

"It's one of the most disgusting things I've ever heard," said Nevada Assembly Majority Leader Richard Perkins, noting that Cash "could have easily gotten a security guard or another

adult and prevented this whole thing from happening." Perkins has requested that legislation be drafted requiring individuals to take every possible step to protect children from criminal acts.

Earl Ofan Hutchinson, author and chief spokesperson for Manuel and the Sherrice Iverson Justice Fund, says his group intends to seek a "good Samaritan" Law on the federal level for this type of crime.

New Jersey legislators and citizens here also have concerns about heinous crimes like these, especially in the wake of other legislation like Megan's Law. Assemblyman William Payne has committed to voting on this type of legislation. He is especially concerned that laws should be passed to make people to the right thing in the face of atrocities like this. "It's a shame we should be going for laws on how to teach right from wrong," he said. "Legislating morality — how

strange." Jack Wilkins, a salesman at Wilkesboro Mall, is in favor of a "good Samaritan" law. "Since everyone turns the other way when they see a crime, why not," he said. Referring to what he described — and is — a totally senseless crime, Wilkins said that Cash should be held responsible on the same level as Strohmeyer. "It makes me think of my two girls," he said.

Charlotte Lopez, a bank teller in Montclair would give full support to



Sherrice Iverson

such legislation. "This is not about race or color, it's about protection."

"The problem today is that no one wants to take responsibility for their actions," she continued. "What does that say about us — the example we're showing to kids — not to mention other countries who would not take nonsense like this anywhere."

Additional reporting by Jean H. Pierre.

Newark swears in new Superior Court Judge

By Sonya Kimble-Ellis

"My career has been one of a public servant," says newly appointed Superior Court Judge Glenn Grant. This is a continuation of that. Being a public servant is what I did for the last 19 years and I'll continue to do that." Those were Grant's words as he responded to a question about his August 20 election as a judge in Essex County Superior Court.

Grant's wife, two children, sister, Mayor Sharpe James, former Newark Mayor Ken Gibson and six other former city employees who have also become judges, attended the swearing-in ceremony at the Essex County Courthouse in Newark. During the ceremony, Grant was a black robe presented to him by acting business administrator JoAnne Watson. He thanked the city residents, Mayor James and his former colleagues.

Prior to his court appointment, Grant spent most of his career in city government. He started his career with Ken Gibson's administration as an assistant corporation counsel. He was then appointed corporation counsel in 1986 by Mayor Sharpe James.

"I've spent my career with the



Judge Glenn Grant is shown here with his wife Roslyn, Judge Michael Nelson and his two children, Glenn and Taylor.

city of Newark," he said in an interview with *City News*. "Thirteen of those years were working as an attorney. For the last six years, I was with the law department." Since 1992, Grant, who was the city's business administrator, was responsible for the daily operation of the city government and over a yearly budget of \$400 million dollars.

Grant began his new post just one day after the ceremony. He is now working in family court where he will hear cases on juvenile delinquency and domestic violence.

Glenn Grant, who is one of the few black judges in Newark Superior Court is the 10th judge to be elected from the city of Newark's law department.

City News to present monthly networking event

NEWARK — The City News Publishing Company, publisher of *City News* and the Minority Business Journal of New Jersey and New York (MBJ) inaugurates the first in a series of monthly networking events called *MBJ Afterhours*. The event is a partnership with the Robert Treat Hotel, in Newark, and co-sponsored by Coors Light, held Wednesday, September 16, 1998, from 5 p.m. to midnight, at the Starlight Cafe.

MBJ Afterhours is New Jersey's premiere forum for individuals to meet, discuss, mingle, and showcase their talents in a relaxed less formal atmosphere, after work, among their peers cultivating new business relationships and opportunities.

Of course, there will be wonderful food, dancing, giveaways and special contests. But MBJ Afterhours also makes it a point to introduce and present a variety of innovative activities creating a unique affair that's well worth the \$10 advance admission price (\$15 at the door).

At our first outing, Phyllis P. Johnson is flying in from Chicago to join us to sign copies of her first book, *Reality Check*. As the youngest of 10 children, her story is one of incest, childhood sexual abuse, a child custody battle, and many other hardships she was able to over-

come on the road to the executive suite in a well-known publishing company. She's truly an inspiration. And, that's what MBJ Afterhours is all about.

Adrianne C. Smith, Vice President of National Sales for the African Heritage Network (AHN), is delivering one of her stirring monologues. Smith is on the fast track to becoming one of the most successful sales and marketing representatives in the entertainment industry. Eddie J. Harris, also from AHN will deliver a reading of his intuitive and thought-provoking poetry. He's just back from an engagement at The Second Annual Acapulo Black Film Festival.

Music will be provided by the ever-popular THE AFFECT, a group destined to redefine the concept of Urban-Contemporary Jazz. "Euphoric Jazz for Enlightened People" is the type of music this group of seasoned professionals create. And the Coors Brewing Company will sponsor what will surely become one of our signature events: The Electrifying Night Electric Slide Contest.

Your face must be in the place! This event is hosted by MBJ's Shonda Laws and the Robert Treat Hotel's Eric Lavoy. For tickets and information call (908) 754-3400.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

PLAINFIELD—The Community Support Program, called ARC will host a 5th anniversary celebration of the program. (908) 754-5910

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

PLAINFIELD—Congressman Bob Franks will host a Senior Expo beginning at 10 a.m. (908) 755-3506

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

GARWOOD—The Union County Coalition for the prevention of Substance Abuse, a program of the Saint Barnabas Behavioral Health Network, will host the nationally acclaimed speaker, Dr. Michael Thomson, a renowned international authority on parenting, at The Westwood, in Garwood. (908) 688-6644

HOLMDEL—The 11th annual Festival of the Arts & Heritage of African Americans takes place at the PNC Bank Arts Center beginning at 10 a.m. (732) 229-9389.

PLAINFIELD—The Mojo Gallery will present a Art For Africa relief exhibition beginning at 4 p.m. (908) 755-9244

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Public Library will have its annual book sale (908) 757-1111

SANDY HOOK—The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, will sponsor its 2nd Annual Fluke Tournament, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (732) 872-1300

LONG BRANCH—The Museum of Latin American Art inaugurates its new galleries of Spanish art called *Online A Trip into the Realm of Myth and Dreams* beginning at 11:30 a.m. (856) 437-1669

JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College, Department of Continuing Education will be conducting an Open House for students interested in professional development and non-credit courses beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 714-2107

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

SHEWISBURY—The Jersey Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross will host the GPU Energy Rock'n Roll bike tour beginning at 9:00 a.m. (732) 741-3443

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield library will have training workshops for volunteers to tutor those who can't read. Beginning at 6 p.m. (908) 755-7998

PLAINFIELD—The Senior Center will host a bingo party beginning at 1 p.m. (908) 753-3506

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

NEWARK—The Newark Museum will be offering trips to Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill (973) 595-6539

BELLE MEAD—The Resource Center will host a domestic violence training seminar beginning at 6 p.m. (908) 359-0003

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

MAHWAH—Ramapo College will open an exhibition on photographs from the civil rights movement beginning at 5 p.m.

PLAINFIELD—The Mothers' Center of Central New Jersey will hold its 9th annual consignment sale through Sunday beginning at 9:00 a.m. (908) 561-1751

PLAINFIELD—The Senior Citizens will host a bus trip down Bally's Park Place in Atlantic City beginning at 9 a.m. (908) 753-3506

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library will host an exhibition of Puerto Rico 1898-1998: A Century of Change and Uncertainty during library hours. (973) 755-7772

BELLE MEAD—The Carrier Foundation will present *Considering Cultural Factors in Clinical Practice* seminar beginning at 12 noon (908) 218-1451

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

PLAINFIELD—Senior Citizens Service Center will host a birthday party for the group beginning at 1:30 p.m. (908) 753-3506

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Public Works Department will host a town hall discussion beginning at 10:30 a.m. (908) 753-3506

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

NEW YORK—The NBA and Hoop-it-up, the league's and NBA Sport's official 3-on-3 street basketball tour, today announce the worldwide tour will roll to New York for the third consecutive year. For registration information, players can call the Hoop-It-Up New York City hotline at 888-315-PLAY.

OCEAN GROVE—The Historic Village will host a concert in honor of Paul Robeson. (732) 774-1889

JERSEY CITY—New Jersey City University will host a SAT Review course beginning at 9:00 a.m. (201) 200-3426

Computers donated to school in Irvington



NEWARK—Pictured left to right: Robert Fuller, a security guard at the Augusta Street School, Emerald Vargas, principal of the Augusta Street Elementary School in Irvington, and Kathleen Staudt, acting director of the Beth Health Care Foundation. Two computers were recently donated by Newark Beth Israel Medical Center to help students at Irvington elementary school. The school is in the process of upgrading its computers. The goal is to eventually have four computers in the classroom.

CITYNET launch connects people



Carol Graves, Registrar, Essex County and Woodbridge Mayor James McGreevey, greet each other at the recent CityNet launch. McGreevey presented a proclamation commemorating the event.



There was socializing mixed in with networking at the recent CityNet launch reception. Pictured left to right: Jinnet Rock-Balley, President of Rock-Balley Enterprises, Lathia Morris, Co-President and COO of The Credit Alternative, Jennifer Jones, Teacher at Plainfield's Woodland School

CITY NEWS CITYNET

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— Paul Robeson

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Faith, bricks and mortar equals home for Hector Gonzalez and family



PLAINFIELD—Pictured left to right: (Backrow) - Marcantonio Gonzalez, David Guirring, Chaplain of Muhlenberg Hospital, Donald Moore, President of Faith, Bricks & Mortar, Father Barbone, Head of St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church, Sally Beckwith, Program's Coordinator, John Minor, contractor, Rul Filipe, contractor, Pete Jones, board member and Jay Castillo, board member. (Front row) - Hector Gonzalez, Sonya Gonzalez, Isadora Gonzalez, and Vincent Gonzalez. (Kneeling) - Steve Gonzalez and Jerome Gonzalez. See page A6 Photo by Kai A. Niyonu

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LEGAL

There ought to be a law

There are people walking this earth today that are so disconnected from other human beings that "feeling their pain" is the farthest thing from their mind. While it is not an actual crime, it's a moral one, and as we enter the next millennium we must look towards the safety of ourselves and our own as well as our progress.

The case of Sherrie Iverson, a seven-year-old African American brutalized and murdered by a 19-year-old white boy with a predilection for kiddie porn and a hatred of blacks, is taking the "I don't want to get involved," precept to a whole other bizarre level. To see what was such a brutal crime in progress, and know what happened, but say nothing is to reduce someone involved to a sub-human level.

It's apparent that we must legislate humaneness. The Sherrie Iverson Justice Fund has called on the United States Congress for a child protective law that would make it a criminal offense for anyone to witness or have knowledge of a violent sexual attack against a pre-teen and fail to report it to the police. Legislators on the state and national level are looking at this case and beginning to work towards action. Your help is essential in this because, unfortunately, there ought to be a law to make people do what's right.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Black mayors support Clinton

The National Conference of Black Mayors passed a resolution recently supporting President Clinton and his work for the American people. The following is a copy of the resolution.

Submitted by Mayor Wellington E. Webb
City, and County of Denver, Colorado

Support for President William Jefferson Clinton

WHEREAS President William Jefferson Clinton has taken responsibility for the actions and has apologized to the American people for the actions of his administration;

WHEREAS we as an organization made up of CEOs of cities around the nation have seen President William Jefferson Clinton as the first President to include us in the formulation of national policies affecting our cities;

WHEREAS President William Jefferson Clinton has worked and continues to work with cities to reduce crime and gun violence, to improve educational opportunities for all Americans, to make clean, affordable, safe housing available to all our citizens, to preserve Social Security for our senior citizens, to improve the environment and preserve our natural resources and to make preventive and restorative health care available to all Americans;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc. (NCMB) goes on record to state that this organization supports President William Jefferson Clinton and his policies and his Administration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc. (NCMB) pledges its support to President William Jefferson Clinton to continue his work for the American people and the American cities and to urge the Congress and the National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc. (NCMB) on national issues.

Adopted this 22nd day of August at the 3rd Quarterly Board of Directors meeting in Mount Potosi, Pennsylvania.

Mayor Gordon D. Bush
President

Mayor Clarence W. Hawkins
Secretary

Armstrong Williams: Myth, fiction and caricature

By Arthur Nunnally

For sometime now I have withheld my pen and not to print what I think about the fellow known as Armstrong Williams. But more I see him on TV and read his commentaries the more disturbed I have become of his antics and his ability to acquire a platform to sell his self-appointing anti-black bile. Mr. Williams is one among a new cast of mostly young so-called conservative black men without any historical foundation of struggle and sacrifice, who has become the darling of white right-wing commentators and in-turn the enemy of the black community, which includes his own mother and father. He has been the life of a slave who has been allowed to dance in his white benefactors drawing room. Noteworthy is his appearance on CNN's "Crossfire" program and other Williams is one among a cast of mostly young so-called conservative black men without any historical foundation of struggle and sacrifice, who have become the darling of white right-wing commentators and in-turn the enemy of the black community, which includes his own mother and father.

After reading his commentary on "Segregated Models" that appeared in the July 16 issue of the *American News* I remain convinced that Williams is nothing more than a figment of some depraved white mind and a glibbie Negro Hackster. Two definitions of a hacker come to mind when viewing his act. The first is the one who seeks to profit from mercenary motives, and the other who employs persuasive showmanship to make a sale or attain an objective. I submit that both of these definitions accurately reflect the mindset and language of Williams. He is both a Negro mercenary and showman for his white conservative benefactors. He is one of those young black Anglo-Saxons with infested minds masquerading as role models, receiving air time to advance false thought.

In "Segregated Models" Williams disparages the so-called black elite who have not desegregated their minds for their criticism of him and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. He specifically identifies the National Bar Association as an impediment to justice dialogue when it comes to Justice Thomas. In his defense, he says that Thomas, Williams attempts to advance the idea that he (Thomas) is some sort of Constitutional scholar who's decisions are "based solely on his understanding of the Constitution."

His choice of the term "great and noble document" to describe the Constitution is laughable. It is to compare a picture of black folks sitting around the table with their slave owners writing and putting the final documents to the great and noble document of the Constitution. Also, for Williams to suggest or believe that the white Supreme Court Justices do represent the status quo in this country and therefore white interests is to completely ignore the history of the Court and how it, in fact, has sought some of the early decisions that perpetuated the superiority of the white man in this country.

Mr. Williams would also have us believe that Clarence Thomas "is an example of the American Dream" and that this provides him with license to think and say what he wants, even though it may not be black enough for some of us. This is crazy thinking. Again, the language of the Negro hackster. The only thing that is wrong here is in the head of Mr. Williams. Furthermore, all evidence so far indicates that Justice Thomas is neither "one of the most important thinkers or leaders in our political and judicial system." By stating this absurdity, Williams besmirches the memories of a cast of great black historical and present heroes.

Arthur Nunnally is a consultant who resides in Newark, N.J.

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CONFRONTING THE CRIMINAL that witnessed the crime

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

I don't know this little girl. I don't know people in Panama or Africa who are killed every day so I can't feel remorse for them." David Cash referring to the murder of seven-year-old Sherrie Iverson in an interview, July 25, 1998.

In a first, a young African-American boy, David Cash, who was 11 years old at the time, will go to a university campus to confront the young white man she accused of being an accomplice to the kidnapping, rape and murder of her daughter, Sherrie Iverson. Yolanda Marshall told the press in Los Angeles in August that she will confront 19-year-old David Cash, a white engineering student at the University of California, Berkeley on the campus the first day of Fall classes, Aug. 26.

By own admission Cash witnessed at least part of the attack on Iverson by his best friend Jerry Strohmeier at the Princeton Country Club near Las Vegas on May 25, 1997. He did not attempt to stop it, or report it to police after Strohmeier told him that he killed Sherrie. The only thing he asked Strohmeier was what type of sexual act he performed on Iverson. Strohmeier is scheduled to go on trial in Las Vegas, Aug. 31 for the murder of Iverson. Cash has not been charged.

The gory account of the rape and murder, Strohmeier gave to police shocked even hard-bitten legal experts. It appears that Iverson was targeted in part because of Strohmeier's bizarre fascination with kiddie sexual porn, and in part because he was an African American. Prosecutors say that they have two witnesses who claim that Strohmeier used racial epithets to describe Iverson.

Cash almost certainly knew much of this. Yet, Clark County District Attorney, Stewart Bell claims that under Nevada law, it is not a crime for a child to report a murder. The announcement

angered many African Americans. They wondered if the DA would have declined to prosecute if Iverson had been white, and Cash an African American? There are plenty of examples where African Americans who did not take part in actual violent acts against others have been charged as principals or have been threatened with prosecution as accessories.

The Regional District hearing case in Los Angeles, and the New York City's Central Park jogger case quickly come to mind. The Iverson murder case is low income, working class blacks from South Central Los Angeles, and Cash like Strohmeier, is from a white middle-class suburban Los Angeles neighborhood. This raises the ancient question about whether black life is less valuable than white life. Most is not willing for a court to answer that question. In addition to confronting Cash at U.C. Berkeley, she is leading a nationwide drive to collect 20,000 signatures for a petition demanding that the Clark County DA prosecute Cash as an accessory to murder. She has also called on the Nevada legislature to make it a crime for a white person to witness a crime involving an African American, and the accused is white. However, the absence of a formal court does not mean his alleged part in the crime of Iverson does nothing to convince her mother that it will.

The Iverson murder case touches many of the same issues of race, class, and sexual abuse as the O.J. Simpson case. It will be closely watched to see if justice will be fully done when the victim is an African American, and the accused is white. However, the absence of a formal court does not mean his alleged part in the crime of Iverson does nothing to convince her mother that it will.

Dr. Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of "The Crisis in Black and White," email: earl@h440.usd.com

Yolanda Marshall and the Sherrie Iverson Justice Fund.

Wagging the Dog?

By Askia Muhammad

While the congruence of the fictional film "Wag the Dog" and the real-life scenario involving President Bill Clinton is undeniable, most of us are not asking the right questions about just who is doing the wagging when the marvel at life appearing to imitate art.

This of course is not the first time, such coincidences occurred in the movies, with such haunting effect.

Have we forgotten the film about the nuclear "whistle blower" Karen Silkwood, which appeared in the theaters with the nuclear incident at the Three Mile Island power plant in Pennsylvania?

When we forgotten the film about the valiant epidemiologists battling a deadly outbreak of ebola, just before the virus swept through East Africa and had health officials worried that an innocent traveler could import the plague to this country?

Although Americans have been quick to recognize that the American attack on alleged terrorist targets in Sudan and Afghanistan, parallels the events in the film "Wag the Dog," in which a group of political advisors simulates a phony war, to cover-up a Presidential sex scandal, few people are asking the same questions about themselves. I think I know why.

The film opens with words on the screen.

"Why does the dog wag its tail?"

"Because the dog is smarter than its tail."

"If the tail was smarter it would wag the dog."

Who is the dog? Who is the tail? Many years ago, Louis Martin, the preeminent African American White House social aide, said that the U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East is

not under American control.

Mr. Martin said the relationship between the United States and Israel — the dog and the tail — is a "bizarre, illogical, and popular (5 million souls) of Maryland, which depends on more than \$1 billion per year in American foreign aid, and many jobs for its citizens, by private gifts from generous Americans — was like "the tail wagging the dog."

"Israel is like the 51st State" of the U.S., Mr. Martin said then. Now, according to Rep. Earl Hilliard (D-Ala.), a House Foreign Relations Committee member, Kenneth Keating (D-N.Y.), a House Foreign Affairs Committee member, and the U.S. State Department, foreign aid for 51 percent of the entire U.S. foreign aid program is given to Israel. Mr. Keating said that Israel, unusual for any American President had totally unprecedented for him, to retaliate, or make a preemptive military strike against the "terrorist targets" in Sudan and Afghanistan is — first, illegal, and not in compliance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, but more importantly, the same policy that Israel employs in its relationships with its neighbors. A week does not pass when Israel doesn't bomb targets in Lebanon, for example.

According to M.I.T. Professor Noam Chomsky, if the Clinton administration is to be taken literally, then the same policy that Israel employs in its relationships with its neighbors. A week does not pass when Israel doesn't bomb targets in Lebanon, for example.

If the tail was smarter, or in this case stronger, it would Wag the Dog.

Askia Muhammad is a Washington, D.C.-based journalist.

Dr. King: revolution in values

By Lenora Fulani

Peace movement has grown rapidly. Despite American measures from the White House and some other civil rights leaders to keep his mouth shut, on April 4, 1967, Dr. King announced that U.S. involvement in the war in Vietnam was a racist and imperialist war. He was repudiated as racial discrimination.

The following spring, as the SCLC prepared for a non-violent march on Washington by a Poor People's Campaign, Dr. King was told that he was an assassin's bullet cut down Dr. King. Without a leader of Dr. King's stature, the willingness to stand up to and be independent of the Democratic Party was lost in black politics. The Democratic Party was only too happy to subvert those leaders who were more concerned, to use Dr. King's words, with getting foundation grants than with getting into the kingdom of heaven.

But the black community has had many more years of betrayal by the Democratic Party. Moreover, much of the rest of America is voicing its distrust of the two major parties. It is time for us to claim the full legacy left to us by Dr. King, by taking up his dream of a multi-racial, moral and independent people's movement. We need a new generation in values that is so needed in America today.

Lenora B. Fulani now runs for President of the U.S. as an Independent, making history in 1988 when she became the first woman and African American to get on the ballot in all 50 states.

Political Analysis

FIELD ASSIGNMENT



Million Youth results

By Walter Fields

By the time this edition his news stands the Harlem Million Youth March will be history. The events leading up to the march demonstrates the complexion of the existing blacks as we attempt to "find" a political voice in our complex at the close of the 20th Century. The Harlem Million Youth March is a phenomenon that seeks to capture the fervor of past civil rights demonstrations while addressing the unique problems facing today's youth.

The precursor to the youth march was the highly successful Mission March held in our nation's capital city of Washington, D.C. in August 1997. Harlem leader Minister Louis Farrakhan, the march was the first significant large-scale public demonstration by blacks in more than a decade. The positive outcome of the march was the creation of hundreds of local organizing committees across the country. Many of these committees continue to exist and have evolved into permanent organizing structures. New Jersey is one of the states that have an active Million Youth March committee.

Following the success of men's march, black women held their own march in Philadelphia last year. The Million Women March did not attract the numbers of its male counterpart but it did bring together a significant gathering of black women. It too left behind remnants in the form of organizing committees that are now engaged in grassroots work in communities across the country.

Like the Million Youth March, the youth march had been wrought with controversy. First, two demonstrations were planned for black youth, Khalid Muhammad, the outspoken and controversial former spokesperson for Minister Farrakhan and the National Black Leadership Initiative Project (NBLIP) called for a Harlem Million Youth March. Muhammad has gained notoriety for his anti-Semitic statements and association with Jew-baiting. He has been the first to make remarks he made while giving a speech at Keon College several years ago. Those words concerning led to his disavowal by Farrakhan. The N.A.A.C.P. Nation of

Islam, and other organizations announced a second march for Atlanta. The more mainstream composition of the organizations of the southern march is facing blacks as we attempt to "find" a political voice in our complex at the close of the 20th Century. The Harlem Million Youth March is a phenomenon that seeks to capture the fervor of past civil rights demonstrations while addressing the unique problems facing today's youth.

Adding fuel to the fire in New York City was the suggestion that the march be held in the middle class area of Manhattan. Khalid Muhammad stands in stark contrast to his silence when New York City cops stormed City Hall during a protest against former Mayor David Dinkins. Scores of New York City "finest" attempted to forcibly enter City Hall, today he attempts to express moral outrage at the march. He has only one ally, the Republican mayor's reflection.

What the youth march movement has revealed is the lack of "end game." What is to be achieved by these public demonstrations? It is enough to simply march or must we do more. This is an issue that organizers fail to remember is that prior civil rights demonstrations were attached to a legislative agenda. The 1963 March on Washington was orchestrated in support of passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Dr. King's Selma to Montgomery journey was held to rally the nation in support of the Voting Rights Act. We have not seen a similar "goal" come out of the Million March movement. This is an issue that organizers fail to remember is that prior civil rights demonstrations were attached to a legislative agenda. The 1963 March on Washington was orchestrated in support of passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Dr. King's Selma to Montgomery journey was held to rally the nation in support of the Voting Rights Act. We have not seen a similar "goal" come out of the Million March movement. 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CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

TRENTON—The New York-New Jersey Minority Purchasing Council (NPPC) will host a "Train Ride" for more than 100 people beginning at New York's Penn Station. For information on time call (212) 582-2334.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

BRIDGEWATER—The Somerset Chamber of Commerce will host Business Exchange Party for more than 100 people beginning at 5:30 p.m. (908) 735-1552.

CLARK—Union National Bank will host a seminar on contrasting investment patterns of the past with current investment philosophy at the Community Education Center beginning at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

NEW YORK—Professional Women in Construction (PWC) present "Developers Forum" at its breakfast symposium at 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., at the Yale Club, Vanderbilt Avenue at 44th Street, New York City. For more information call PWC at 212-687-0610 or fax 212-490-1213.

NEWARK—The regional Business Partnership is hosting a seminar on International Interest called "International Commerce & Intelligence: How to Use It & Why It Is Important." (973) 942-6237.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

WASHINGTON—COBI invites African Americans to seize the power of the Internet—learn about e-commerce, real estate, and private companies, real estate, and art—at the First Annual e-Commerce Conference in Washington, D.C. The agenda includes information-packed workshops, financial analysis, portfolio managers and valuable networking opportunities. To register, call 888-411-2624.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

NEWARK—The Rutgers Small Business Development Center will present a seminar called "Where's the Money?" at 8 p.m. For more information, contact Blair beginning at 8:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

MARQUETTE—If organizers have their way, the Marquette Fall Festival at the Bay will set new standards for outdoor festival held in southern New Jersey. For more information, contact Blair beginning at 908-268-0500.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

NEWARK—The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey is hosting a awards luncheon called Procurement Fair. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. (973) 972-6238.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

BASKING RIDGE—The New York-New Jersey Minority Purchasing Council presents a MBSE GENERAL MEETING AND FINANCE & TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP held at 9 a.m. (212) 582-2334.

Business Brief

Conference on U.S.-Africa business partnerships
U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin recently visited Africa to further push for financial liberalization and boosted investment and economy development on that continent. Rubin is expected to be a participant when the Africa Club of the World Bank/IMF hosts its Africa Day Business Forum in Washington, D.C., Oct. 22-25, 1998. It is an Africa-driven initiative to project the changing realities of the "New African Organizers" say that the "Africa Day Business Forum" can be an effective program for exposing over 700 of Africa's emerging new entrepreneurs to potential opportunities in the U.S. market, and facilitate creation of partnerships and entrepreneurial networking. They expect the event to serve as a forum of exchange between business leaders from North America and Africa. Events are to include: workshops and seminars of interest to corporate leaders and entrepreneurs; a trade fair for buyers, sellers and investors; African Investors' Program; a concert and banquet. For more information, call the World Bank/IMF Africa Club Bureau at (207) 458-0338 for details.

Send business news, calendar information and promotions to:
City News Business Section
c/o City News
P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07061

Planning now for your future

By Dr. Karen Enslie

In various surveys, many people say they'd like to retire early—between the ages of 55 and 60. Yet, if they do, they face a major asset accumulation problem while their money must last a long time, often three or four decades.

Saving as early and as much as possible is the key to financial security in retirement. In her book, *Live Long & Profit*, Key R. Shirley outlines financial needs and challenges people face as they move through life.

In your 20s: Tune down the use of credit cards and invest at least four percent of your gross income.

In your 30s: Begin to think seriously about your future. Maximize contributions to a tax-deferred savings plan. Make your car last at least seven years.

In your 40s: You may have to play catch-up if you have not been saving. This is the "moment of truth decade" but you still have time. Maximize contributions to your 401(k) or another tax-deferred savings plan.

In your 50s: "The Home Run Decade." You are beginning to think seriously about the age you will retire. Be careful about overinvesting.

In your 60s: Plan on how to stay healthy and live wisely; make plans for a surviving spouse and children.

The key point to remember is that the sooner you begin a saving and investment plan, the longer your money will have to grow and the greater the overall return. According to specialists at Clemen University, few of today's workers have definite savings goals based on an assessment of what their future retirement needs will be. And most people underestimate how long they will live in retirement.

A 55-year-old American male will likely live to be 78. A 55-year-old female has a life expectancy of 82. But, for investment purposes, you might want to add five years to your life expectancy or 10 years if you come from a line of long-lived ancestors. Why? Because your savings will have to stretch for decades.

So how much money do you need to save today to have sufficient funds for the future? There is no magical answer. Individuals need to answer this question based on their earning potential and desired lifestyle. The American Savings Education Council has developed a "Ballpark Estimate" worksheet to help you figure out how much you need to save for retirement. You can access this worksheet at <http://www.wasoc.org/ballpark.htm>

Pay yourself first—Treat savings like one of your regular bills. Put a part of each paycheck—even if it is a small amount—into savings and let it grow.

Pay loan installments to yourself—Once you pay off an installment loan, continue to make the "payment" into your savings account. This is a good way to save for the down payment on your next car once the old one is paid for. Use this same technique when you have an expense, like child care or college tuition, that ends. Use the money you were previously paying for child care to increase savings or deduct a debt.

Save your extra paychecks—Workers paid biweekly have two months a year with three paydays; those paid weekly have four months with five paydays. Save all or part of these extra paychecks or use the money to reduce debt.

Save spare change—Place loose change in a can or jar. As money accumulates, place it in a savings account to earn interest.

Bank a raise—If you've recently received a raise, by living on your previous salary and save the difference.

Light industrial building located in a Federal Enterprise Community Neighborhood.

Also joining Mayor James and Senator Lautenberg were high-ranking individuals from the City's business community.

The author takes a well researched look at the status of African Americans, other minorities, and women. These groups are confronted with the loss of employment and financial advancement made during the 1960s and 1970s. In the 1980s and now in the 1990s, the "hard-core civil rights gains made by minorities have disappeared." A major blow to civil rights.

Stith says, the Supreme Court's refusal in 1997 to hear arguments against California's Proposition 209, the 1996 initiative that was eventually passed, and "abolished affirmative action" in the state. Thus, precedent was set so that all states will now have the opportunity to eliminate affirmative action.

Stith shows how to overcome discrimination and sexist barriers and achieve success by using methods that benefit all people. He knows from personal experience that, if employers and managers refuse to stop discriminatory practices, individuals may opt for self-expensive legal action.

According to the author, he wrote *Breaking The Glass Ceiling* to educate "corporate America and institutions" and to demonstrate why it is in their best interest to abandon racism and sexism. He urges minorities and women not to wait for others to take action, but to address discrimination "whenever it occurs."

The secrets to saving money

ELIZABETH—The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is urging county residents to consider a free program that can help participants reach their personal financial goals. The program, *Money 2000*, is offered by Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County, which is located at the County Admin building on South Avenue in Westfield.

Many people are surprised at how quickly they can save money after changing just one of their spending habits. "I and Daniel P. Sullivan, Director of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, this free program can help participants feel like they have control over their personal finances."

The program is designed to increase the financial well-being of New Jersey residents through increased savings and reduced household debt. Participation in the program includes a packet with helpful information and tactics for savings, free seminars and financial seminars.

Here are several strategies the *Money 2000* project offers for trying

to save money:

Put a part of each paycheck—even if it is a small amount—into savings and let it grow.

Pay loan installments to yourself—Once you pay off an installment loan, continue to make the "payment" into your savings account. This is a good way to save for the down payment on your next car once the old one is paid for. Use this same technique when you have an expense, like child care or college tuition, that ends. Use the money you were previously paying for child care to increase savings or deduct a debt.

Save your extra paychecks—Workers paid biweekly have two months a year with three paydays; those paid weekly have four months with five paydays. Save all or part of these extra paychecks or use the money to reduce debt.

Save spare change—Place loose change in a can or jar. As money accumulates, place it in a savings account to earn interest.

Bank a raise—If you've recently received a raise, by living on your previous salary and save the difference.

Politicians host development tour

NEWARK—Mayor Sharpe James and Senator Frank Lautenberg recently hosted an economic development tour of the city of Newark highlighting economic growth assisted by federal funding and the city of Newark's public and private partnerships.

The tour, which began at Senator Lautenberg's office, included a

visit to the site of the \$75 million Joseph J. Minish Riverfront Project where N.J. Transit will conduct a presentation on the proposed Newark-Elizabeth Rail Link.

Additional stops include \$100 million Waverly New development tract directly across from Newark Airport and the \$6.5 million North Ward Industrial Park, a

light industrial building located in a Federal Enterprise Community Neighborhood.

Also joining Mayor James and Senator Lautenberg were high-ranking individuals from the City's business community.

Mapping out your insurance needs

By Dale G. Caldwell

Insurance is one of the most misunderstood investment vehicles. Many people purchase too much insurance or the wrong insurance because of an overly aggressive insurance agent. However, even those people do not purchase enough insurance because they do not know the benefits of risk protection.

The five major types of insurance are health, life, disability, home owners and auto insurance. Insurance is an important part of an investment portfolio because it protects your assets in the case of a catastrophe. You may have a solid financial plan that will help you achieve all of your financial goals. However, illness, disability, death, bad weather or an auto accident can destroy your total financial plan. Insurance allows you to protect against these catastrophes.

Unfortunately, the cost of health insurance outside of group coverages is extremely high. However, paying for health insurance is a necessary expense. Without health insurance, a major illness can leave you bankrupt. There are three major types of health insurance: "Fee-for-service" plans typically allow you the most options in selecting a physician. You pay a small fee and the insurance company pays the rest. With "Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO's)" you join an organization where you pay monthly fees for health services usually from one provider. "Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO's)" are a hybrid between fee-for-service and HMO's. PPO's allow you to choose from more physicians than you can with the HMO.

Life Insurance—life insurance protects your survivors financially from the risk of your death. You need sufficient life insurance to ensure that your survivors have enough income to live at the same standard of living that they maintained while you were alive. To determine how much life insurance that you need you must compute what your survivors' annual income would be without you (current salary, social security benefits, etc.) minus the cost of their living expenses. In addition, you must determine how long they will need this income. This difference is the amount of annual income that your insurance death benefit must insure. Your objective is to purchase sufficient life insurance to meet this financial goal. The two major types of term insurance (where you are insured only for a specified time period, i.e. 1 year, 5 years, etc.) and Universal life insurance (more expensive than term insurance, however, it provides insurance for the rest of your life and contains an investment component).

Disability Insurance—disability insurance protects you in the event that you become disabled and cannot work. You pay an annual premium for a disability insurance policy that will pay you a specified sum every month if you become disabled. Most people are much more likely to become disabled than die. However, they do not protect against disability by purchasing disability insurance. Many financial planners advise people to have 60 percent of their income covered in the event that they become disabled.

Homeowners Insurance—homeowners insurance covers the dwelling and the contents of a home. Financial planners typically advise clients to provide coverage for all risks on the dwelling with coverage on specific items in the house. However, the most important thing to know about homeowners insurance is that costs and coverage vary significantly among insurance companies. It is essential that you compare policies among at least three insurers (if not more).

Automobile Insurance—there are five basic coverage areas for automobile insurance. The first is liability coverage which covers injuries to passengers in your car, other cars and pedestrians. The second is property damage which covers damage to property caused by the insured car. The third is medical payment coverage which covers medical bills. The fourth is protection from uninsured or underinsured drivers which protects you if you are hit by someone with little or no insurance. The fifth is collision coverage which covers damage to your automobile. The condition of your car, the age of the drivers and the frequency with which you use your car are the key factors in determining your auto insurance coverage needs.

Insurance is an essential component of a financial plan. Unfortunately, knowledge about insurance to purchase is often confusing. A financial planner can help you decide what insurance you need. For more information, e-mail me at dgcaldwell@ditus.com or contact *Cm News*.

Dale G. Caldwell is a certified management consultant (CMC), a former chief financial planner (CFP) and a national director of recruiting for Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group.

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UNION: 100 N. P.O. Box 127
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Local Briefs

Student uniforms focus of parent meeting

PLAINFIELD — Clinton School parents had an opportunity to discuss the school's plan to adopt a policy of student uniforms recently. The school is planning to implement a mandatory school uniform policy in the 1998 - 1999 school year.

"During the last school year, the school requested and received permission from the Board of Education to institute the policy."

Schools that have adopted student uniforms say that uniforms enhance school safety, improve the learning environment, reduce ethnic and racial tensions and promote good student behavior.

Third Avenue playground grand opening

Asbury Park — In response to the community's request and the playgrounds, Mayor and Council realized these requests at the grand opening of a contemporary, state-of-the-art, beachfront playground valued at \$80,000 at no cost to the taxpayers. The playground, located at Third Avenue and Boardwalk, replaces a play area removed from Seventh Avenue several years ago and is equipped with the only Alpine Slide in New Jersey. Space Shuttles, Wheels-A-Bout, Wish Bone and Big Foot Slides, Activity Panels in sign language and braille, Rock Climb, Toss & Score, Talk Tube and much more.

Over thirty years ago, a non-profit organization established the Children Welfare Association Incorporated Trust Fund for the interest of children which in turn supplied the funds for the playground. Spearheaded by Deputy Mayor John J. Hamilton, Jr., the playground comes brightly decorated, fully equipped and accessible to children with handicaps; benches and shaded table areas are also available for parents. At the commencement of redevelopment the playground can be relocated. Marturano Recreation Company, Inc. of Bricktown were essential component in its development.

Plainfield's Mayor's Cup drives minority golf, scholarships

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Minority Golf Association's first annual Plainfield Mayor's Cup was held recently at the Hillsborough (Anenall) Golf and Country Club in Hillsborough.

Proceeds of the event will go toward underwriting scholarship assistance to deserving high school students furthering their education at an institution of higher learning. Two 1998 scholarship awards will be made by the Association at the banquet, \$2500 to Shari States, who is a student at Rutgers this fall, and \$500 to Samantha Crawford, a student at William Paterson College.

The Plainfield Minority Golf Association, formed in 1997, is a member of the United States Golf Association and provides an organized program to promote the sport of golf among the minority community in Plainfield and the surrounding area.

City hold run for the children

ELIZABETH — Mayor Chris Bollwage announced that the City of Elizabeth, in conjunction with the County of Union, Union County College, and the Union County Prosecutor's Office, will host Run for the Children '98. The event consists of a five-mile run and a three mile walk on Sunday, October 18, and begins at Union County College at 9 a.m. The proceeds benefit the Union County Child Abuse Center.

Registration forms are available in City Hall. The registration fee is \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth 14 and under. Custom designed T-shirts will be distributed to each registered participant. Registration is due by Monday, October 5.

Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark drill with Nets coaches



Coach Calipari posed with members of the Boys' and Girls' Club of Newark. The New Jersey Nets held a basketball clinic for more than 50 members of the club recently.

NEWARK — Nearly one hundred youngsters from the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark (BGCN) recently attended a basketball clinic conducted by Nets Head Coach, John Calipari and members of his coaching staff. The Nets clinic was led by team President Michael Rowe and Senior Vice President Willis Reed.

The youths received professional instruction on the physical and mental aspects of the game from Coach Calipari and the Nets' assistant coaches, and were thrilled to learn some of the techniques used by Nets basketball players.

Like many of the participants, 14-year-old Veronica Little was delighted she had the opportunity to attend the clinic. "It was cool, it was fun," said Veronica. "I feel fortunate that I got to meet the Nets coaches. They really care about kids."

The Nets emphasized their commitment to Newark's youth and the importance of education

by donating a half dozen gently used computers to the BGCN. Rowe said, "The Nets have been very aggressive in promoting the value of education. We hope these computers will allow more children to expand their minds."

Additionally, Coach Calipari presented a check for \$3,000 to Nyles P. Varley, the Executive Director of the BGCN. "It is a pleasure to donate these funds," said Calipari, "I'm sure this money will be used for the further development of the BGCN athletic programs." The check represented profits from the recent Nets summer basketball camp held at River Dell High School in Oradell.

Other highlights of the day included various Nets giveaways, playing in the Nets "Hoop Zone," where the kids shot baskets while a disc jockey played their favorite music, and a pep talk by Coach Calipari, encouraging the children to always strive for success.

Trevor Strigler, Athletic Director of the BGCN, believes

the collaboration between the Nets and the clubs will have a positive effect on the kids and the community. "Events like these will help the Nets expand their fan base in Newark and hopefully encourage other corporations to get involved with efforts to revitalize this city."

For more information on becoming involved with the BGCN, call 973-242-1200.



William Carver of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark does a Net's coaches shirt.

Affordable housing happens in Plainfield



This lovely two-family home was made possible by Faith, Bricks and Mortar.

PLAINFIELD — Plainfield Mayor Al McWilliams and representatives of his Economic Development team along with members of the Plainfield city council attended an open house at 922 West Front Street recently. The home is a newly constructed two-family, one-owner house built in cooperation with Faith, Bricks and Mortar, a Community Housing Development Organization (CHODO) of Union County, the City of Plainfield, and the Union County HOME Investment Partnership Program. Each story unit has three bedrooms, two full baths, living, dining room & kitchen.

Faith Bricks & Mortar, Inc. is a non-profit corporation comprised of Plainfield citizens organized by city clergy in 1991 to assist low- and moderate income families in obtaining decent, affordable housing in Plainfield. In addition to using federal monies to complete their mission, it has received administrative and program grants from the Affordable Housing Network of

New Jersey, the Catholic Charities' Campaign for Human Development, the Plainfield Foundation, United Nation Bank, World Savings Bank and generous support from the First Unitarian Society and the United Church of Christ in Plainfield.

In 1997, the City demolished a dilapidated house on the West Front Street site, and subsequently transferred title of the vacant land to Faith, Bricks & Mortar. Using plans drawn by ENTECH Partnership, and funded by the County's HOME Program, Faith, Bricks & Mortar, acting as project developer and construction manager, engaged F.A.S.T. Construction Company and J.S. Minor Corporation of Newark to construct the home. The house is being purchased by Hector Gonzalez, a first-time homebuyer and single parent of two children, Gonzalez is a low income buyer as defined by HUD income guidelines. He, in turn, will be renting the second unit to a low income family.

Performer's family sues gurney makers

ATLANTIC CITY (AP) — The family of a Boardwalk performer who was killed in a traffic accident is suing the maker of her custom-built gurney, saying it was a motor vehicle required to have lights and reflectors.

The lack of these safety items contributed greatly to the accident that caused Celestine Tate Harrington's fatal injuries in February, the attorney representing her survivors and estate said Tuesday.

"The drivers might very well have had a better chance of not striking her gurney if it had proper illumination as required by law," said Paul R. D'Amato.

Harrington, 42, died Feb. 25 from injuries suffered a week earlier when the motorized gurney she used to get around the city was struck by two vehicles on a city street. The drivers of the vehicles claimed they did not see the gurney because of darkness, according to police reports.

The suit names the two drivers and Lincoln Pharmacy, where Harrington purchased the gurney she steered with her mouth.

Harrington, who was born with deformed arms and legs, wowed Boardwalk passersby for years by playing an electric keyboard with her tongue.

Harrington's daughters, Niyra Tate-Ball and Coronda Tate, and her husband, Roy, are seeking compensatory and punitive damages. They claim Harrington was conscious and "suffered greatly" in the six days before she died.

Dial Reese, an owner of the pharmacy, told The Press of Atlantic City he was unaware of the suit and declined comment.

At the time of the Feb. 19 accident, police said they classified the gurney as a wheelchair and that it was regulation free.

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To succeed in life, children need to start off with the right tools. That's why Mobil has teamed up with Teach The Children and Kiwanis International to provide thousands of inner-city children with much needed school supplies such as pens, pencils, paper, bookbags and much more. This year, the program will benefit schools in Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia. Mobil's participation is yet another example of our continued commitment to improving the lives of the people within the communities we serve. We are dedicated to fueling the future with the energy to make a difference.

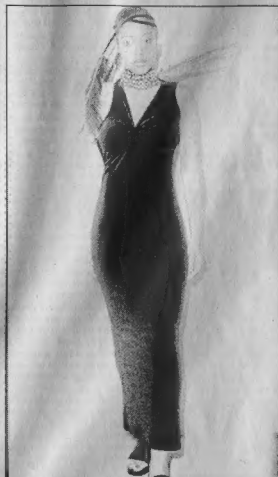


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LifeStyles

Nate Hutson: Setting trends New Jersey style



This design executed in black stretch velvet was made for elegance and comfort.



The deep split in this fluid jersey gown shows beautiful legs to their best advantage.



Elegance is the key to a Nate Hutson fashion original as this glitter slinky gown with deep ruffle sleeves show. Inset: The designer, Nate Hutson.



Just a few of Nate Hutson's best: From left, glitter slinky in earth tones with matching chiffon; stretch velvet halter gown; silver metallic knit slinky provides for comfortable movement.

By Sojka Kimble-Ellis

Newark native and clothing designer Nate Hutson says designing clothes is an extension of things he's been influenced by over the years and a instinctive desire to create attire "that's unique, different and fashion forward."

A graduate of Arts High School and the Newark School of Fine Arts, Hutson's collections consist of a diverse mix of street wear, womenswear and high fashion couture. In addition to the clothing he designs for his local clientele, Hutson has used his fashion sense to create designs and/or costumes for recording artists Big Bub, Rakim, Bully Lawrence, Ten City and music producer James Muma.

As a stylist, he has worked on a video by Bobby Brown and designed the Egyptian-style costumes worn by the 24 dancers in the "Ladies Night" segment on the 1997 MTV Music Awards. Hutson's fashions were also showcased at last year's Acapulco Film Festival.

So how does he go about making his fashion ideas a reality? "First of all," says Hutson, "I try to do stuff that I have a feel for. And those things tend to be a little different than what most people are doing. The process, though, is usually always pretty much the same."

Although Hutson will sometimes use illustration before creating a design, a craft he learned at the Newark School of Fine Arts, he prefers a technique he calls draping. "That's when you have a dress form and, with the fabric, you drape the style you want to do," he explains. "You then pin the fabric in order to do your design pattern or cuts."

And does Hutson think long and hard about creating the newest or latest trend when he's draping fabric? "I don't think as much about it now as I did when I was starting out," he confesses. "I sometimes look at what the top designers are doing and are sometimes influenced by a line or cut. I just concentrate on doing affordable clothing for people who want to look designer-original."

Hutson has done fashion shows at Newark's Central and Barringer high school and Essex County College. He is presently at work on developing a line of prom gowns. His company clothing company, NCNY, is currently in development.



This lace two-piece sports top with boot-leg pants is perfect for at-home entertaining.

The five habits of highly effective back-to-school shoppers

The annual back-to-school shopping ritual can be an expensive and even trying time of year for parents. However, with a bit of preparation you can keep your budget intact and update your kids' wardrobe with the basics they need and maybe a few of the hot looks they're clamoring for. To help you accomplish this affordably and with a minimum of stress, here is a five-point guide to sensible, low-stress shopping, battle-tested by real-life moms and dads.

TAKE INVENTORY

Before you go shopping, the first stop is your child's closet. Have your child try on pieces from their existing wardrobe. See which items still fit and which items no longer do. Save the outgrown items for your next garage sale, donate them to a local charity or save them for hand-me-downs.

As you're going through their closet, review clothing items with your child. Find out which ones are their favorites, which ones they never wear, and why. By soliciting their opinions on specific items, you'll be able to determine their likes and dislikes and avoid spending money on pieces that won't get worn.

PLAN YOUR COUSIN

As you edit the pieces with your child, make a list of a few replacement basics they'll need to fill out their back-to-school wardrobe. A systematic approach will help focus your shopping goals, show your child that you're planning to build on what they already have, and that you're not planning to buy them an entirely new wardrobe.

MAKE IT COUNT

Before you head to Target, make it clear to your child that you're shopping within a certain budget, and how much you are willing to spend. If your child wants to contribute some of their baby-sitting money for extras or the latest, coolest items, that's great—but remember to set a limit on how much of their savings they can use. Again, remind your children that they are updating their wardrobe, not starting from scratch, so they'll only need a few items to spruce up their back-to-school look.

MAKE IT SPECIAL

When shopping day arrives, if you have more than one child, consider setting aside time to shop with each child individually. Not only will you get a bit of one-on-one quality time and keep your mission focused, but you'll also avoid distracting bouts of sibling rivalry while shopping.



The wider the better: Wide-leg boys' denim jeans are a top choice for back-to-school wardrobes everywhere.



Jump out in style: Funky-flare-leg jeans and T-shirt combo will easily energize any wardrobe.

Religion Calendar

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

PATERSON—The New Christian Tabernacle Church of God in Christ presents their "Silver Anniversary Banquet" to be held at the elegant Broomstone House beginning at noon. (973-742-1978)

LAKEWOOD—Sisters of Mercy will sponsor a Mercy AIDS Ride beginning at Georgetown College in celebration of their 120th anniversary. 1 (800) 837-2974

SOUTH BRONX—The American Bible Society will hold an "Extreme Faith Rally" with musical performances by 200 inner-city residents from 3 to 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Park, Jackson Avenue between 143 and 144th Streets. (212) 405-1525

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

PATERSON—The New Christian Tabernacle Church of God in Christ invites the public to celebrate Pentecost Harvest 1998. Holy Ghost Revival through September 20 beginning 7:30 p.m. (973) 742-1978

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

NEW YORK—A symposium "Translation of the Bible: History, Impact and Future" will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the American Bible Society's headquarters located at 1865 Broadway Street. (212) 408-1525

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

NEW YORK—A special workshop on learning how to tell Bible stories will be a one-day information conference sponsored by the American Bible Society's Volunteer Ministers at the Bible House. 1 (800) 242-5378 ext. 1315

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

HACKENSACK—Men of the Universal Negro College Church presents "Gospelcast 1998" featuring the "Gospel Hi-Lites" and many others beginning at 3 p.m. at the UGCC Temple #2. For more info call (201) 816-1863 or (201) 343-6133.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

PLAINFIELD—Faith Tabernacle Church presents their 1st annual men's conference beginning 7:30 p.m. This conference will be held through October 4. (908) 757-6558

Harvest of hope

SOMERSET—The First Baptist Community Development Corporation (FBCDC) has announced the formation of the First Baptist Community Services Network of Churches. The network will take the lead through the FBCDC Harvest of Hope Foster Care Program in addressing the boarder baby crisis in New Jersey.

In October 1996 the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) met with the First Baptist Community Development Corporation to discuss the boarder baby crisis in Essex County. The response was the creation of a program to identify and train foster parent recruits through a network of churches in the state of New Jersey. As a result, since its inception in January of 1997, the Harvest of Hope Foster Care Program has resulted in the placement of 30 children in 34 DYFS approved foster homes.

Currently, there are 17 churches representing eight counties statewide that are a part of the Harvest of Hope Foster Care Program (CFSN). The role of the churches is to provide support to church families that enroll in the foster care program. Some examples of how churches have contributed to the program include: hosting baby showers for the foster parents, providing baby sitting services, providing in training and recruitment and providing presentations at church functions.

According to Harvest of Hope Program Manager, Clara Robertson, the success of the program is attributable to the existence of a strong Christian Family Services Network. Many churches and their members have opened their doors and hearts to our children.

The Harvest of Hope Foster Care Program and its Christian Family Services Network work under the auspices of the First Baptist Community Development Corporation, a non-sectarian, 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. The goal of the FBCDC is to help families in its target service area achieve economic self-sufficiency by addressing health, housing, educational, and employment needs. Harvest of Hope also works in partnership with the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services.

Revelation gives a million dollars to churches, schools

Revelation's executive vice president

MEMPHIS—Still in its first year of full-time operation, Revelation Corporation of America has just allocated from its proceeds the sum of \$1,032,500 for distribution to its five founding churches and to a variety of other associates and public educational institutions.

Revelation is the for-profit economic, cooperative organization by five major African-American church denominations on Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday in 1966 for the purpose of communal empowerment. And, as was noted by Dr. Bennett W. Smith, Sr., current president of both Revelation and the Progressive National Baptist Convention, "We're no longer just talking about empowerment, we're doing it."

Fr. And Revelation's chairman, Bishop William H. Graves, pointed out that the presence on this first allocation list of five predominantly black colleges was an indication of Revelation's commitment to education in general and to higher education for African Americans in particular.

"We're concerned with opening up educational opportunities all the way through a student's career," said Bishop Graves, who presides over the 1st Episcopal District of the C.M.E. Church.

As John Lowery, executive vice president for Revelation, added, the corporation makes a variety of student loans available through its partnership with Educual, long a leader in the field of assistance to students, and to minority students in particular. "Especially this time of year, at back-to-school time, Revelation members should be aware of how easy it is to call our toll-free number, 1-800-893-5555, and get the financial help they need for the would-be scholars in their families, the ones whose future promise will fulfill all our tomorrow's." (All Revelation goods and services - including the "Never-Say-No"

attached educational contribution of \$62,500, to Lane College of Jackson, Tennessee on Friday, August 21. Others will be announced as they occur during the next several weeks.



Bishop William H. Graves (left) formally accepts a special revenue distribution from John Lowery (right) Revelation's executive vice president. major-label credit card - can be accessed and arranged through the toll-free number.) Bishop Graves and Lowery formally presented the first no-strings-

Therapeutic value of truth

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"History can play the same role as the psychiatrist. As long as we don't know how to explain certain events, certain behavior which exists today in the individual and collective plans, we will remain prisoners of our past because we don't understand it. But if one doesn't understand his history, even his own private history, he can cultivate complacency, believing, for example, that one is damned. History allows us to understand who we are. If one doesn't know who one is, one can't know what one wants or what one will become. I think that the most exclusive role of history is to lay down this fundamental base of development..." Joseph Ki-Zerbo

It is imperative that we reclaim our history as African people, that we restore our knowledge of self. Understanding who we are and how we got into our present predicament is crucial to our mental liberation, our sanity and personal and group development.

By understanding our history I don't mean regurgitating the misrepresentations of Africa and Africans fabricated by our enemies. I don't mean the on-going attempts to appropriate African civilization, culture and scientific accomplishments to Europeans or Asians. Our productivity to sanity, stabilization, self-actualization, healthy self-esteem and recovery hinges on knowing who we really are, where we came from and what we are capable of doing, being and becoming.

Most of us can't explain the pathological behaviors that undermine our identity, well-being and collective self-esteem. We don't know why we don't trust one another, why it is so easy for us to insult, injure and kill one another, to be so unforgiving of black people, to quickly give up on one another, yet be so tolerant and passive towards our enemies. We don't understand the underlying causes of our processes and systems that make these abnormalities possible because we haven't fully grasped or understood our history.

South African freedom fighter Steven Biko once said, "the main weapon in the arsenal of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed." We have been programmed (brainwashed) to hate every aspect of ourselves. This is the root cause of our self-destructive behaviors. Only the truth can make us whole, fully functioning human beings. Our truth is found in African history. Once we discover who we really are, there's no way we will continue to acquiesce to oppression or dehumanization.

As Brother Ki-Zerbo stated "history can play the same role as the psychiatrist." Our past holds the key to our rejuvenation, revitalization and resurrection. We must make a conscious choice to discover our history. That is the role of the Africanist movement, to put forth the truth and reconnect us to our rich African heritage. History supplies the answers. We have to know our personal and collective history. Without a proper orientation and understanding of our past, both in Africa and in this hemisphere, we remain pawns and puppets of our enemies. Our ignorance of self keeps us fragmented, disorganized and impotent.

As Brother Ki-Zerbo stated "history can play the same role as the psychiatrist." Our past holds the key to our rejuvenation, revitalization and resurrection. We must make a conscious choice to discover our history. That is the role of the Africanist movement, to put forth the truth and reconnect us to our rich African heritage. History supplies the answers. We have to know our personal and collective history. Without a proper orientation and understanding of our past, both in Africa and in this hemisphere, we remain pawns and puppets of our enemies. Our ignorance of self keeps us fragmented, disorganized and impotent.

Gospel Hi-Lites sing praises for the Lord

HACKENSACK—The Gospel Hi-Lites

was formed in 1979, with Doc McKenzie as the trainer. Since the formation of this group of dynamic and talented singers, they have sang to the glory of God. They have been singing on many programs with major groups such as *The Mighty Clouds of Joy*, *The Pilgrim Jubilees*, *The Gospel Keynotes*, *The Williams Brothers*—just to name a few. Because of the great talent some members left to seek other endeavors in the music field such as songwriting for Michael Jackson, performing in major theatrical productions, Edward McKenzie, the nephew of Doc McKenzie, was the songwriter and lead guitar player. In 1984 the group was reorganized, after the death of Edward McKenzie, the brother of the current lead singer Eric McKenzie. Keeping the spirit of Edward alive, several excellent and talented members were added. The current members include Eric McKenzie, Harry Norris, Eskine Barnino, Sheldon Goss, Kenny Montgomery and Donald Williams.

The Gospel Hi-Lite Irs. will be performing September 20 beginning at 3 p.m. at UGCC Temple #2 located at 180 Clay Street, Hackensack. Donation is \$10.00 and dinner is available for \$5.00. For more information call (201) 816-1863 or (201) 343-6133.



The Gospel Hi-Lites

Author and Bishop T. D. Jakes speaks on: The lady, her lover and her Lord

By Janice Malone

Bishop T.D. Jakes is a popular pastor, a powerful speaker and best-selling author. With his phenomenally successful books, tapes, TV program and national conferences, in a relatively short time, he has proven that his message transcends race, denomination, gender and economic status. His Dallas, Texas-based church has a steadily growing membership of more than 15,000. During the first week of July his annual "Woman Thou Art Free" conference drew more than 52,000 women from around the world to Atlanta's Georgia Dome.

Bishop Jakes' just-released new book, "The Lady, Her Lover And Her Lord," is a must read. This is his 14th book. Nine have appeared on the national Christian bestseller list and his latest book is certain to join them. The Scoop recently talked exclusively with Bishop Jakes:

SCOOP: Your ministry has a special place for women who are hurting. What areas of life do women need to be missing the mark in most?

BISHOP JAKES: That's a good question. I think the answer depends on what age group the woman may be in. In a lot of cases where there are single women, I think this group of women seems to mostly put their aspirations on hold, in pursuit of some significant other to come into their lives. They seem to become so engrossed in the relational issues that they lose large chunks of their lives by waiting on somebody else to make them feel complete. But my message to that woman is that you don't necessarily have to have a companion in order to be a whole person. They need to know that other aspects of life that are bringing about wholeness. There's spirituality, the pursuit of a career, understanding and affirming yourself as a person. And then out of that wholeness when somebody does come into your life, you're then prepared to respond to them appropriately. And to the married women there are other issues where she's missing the mark. We tell these women to communicate with their men, but we don't tell them that we (men) speak different languages of communication.

SCOOP: Why do you think

your books have been so successful with women?

BISHOP JAKES: I think because as a man, through my books I try to translate to women issues that men aren't always articulate about to women. As men, we often times fail to communicate on topics that are near and dear to us. We just won't talk about them at all. So that leaves women trying to figure out what's on our mind through sign language. And this leaves her at a disadvantage because men often times speak in sign language as something totally different than what we really mean. I go into great detail about this in the book. And when a husband or children see this season of her life, after the kids have gone, she's left alone, she feels at a loss. She's allowed her role as a mother and her role in the life of her husband to define who she is. If the husband dies and the children are gone, this woman is often left feeling incomplete. This woman has always seen herself as a caregiver to other people. She's left with nobody to care for but herself. Throughout the various stages of life she's been so busy that she doesn't maintain rapport with her own personhood. This is important because in the absence of a husband or children she's not left estranged from her own femininity.

THE SCOOP: Okay, so women are in a mess. Where do we start in order to heal?

BISHOP JAKES: Women are in a mess only from the standpoint that they're hurting. Women are resourceful; they're strong and they're survivors. African-American women have survived slavery, rape, abuse as a patriarchal society. They are so many good things that need to be said to maternal women of all races. The male gender of being a woman should be applauded. We just aren't used to the "Woman Thou Art Free" conference in the Georgia Dome (Atlanta). We had over 52,000 women attend from around the world, from countries as far away as Japan, Switzerland and Barbados. We filled up the entire stadium with women who showed they are deeply committed to strengthening and bettering themselves. Now more than ever today's women believe in investing

herself. She's knowledgeable about business. She takes care of beautifying herself as well. So now we're seeing women taking an interest more than ever in making over their spiritual lives. The best place for a woman to start with mending her life is to pursue spirituality. I say that because everything that a woman is required to give as a mother, wife, business woman etc., starts from within. And if she doesn't have a sufficient deposit within herself, then when life makes a withdrawal she'll become over extended and left in the red. And when women are left in the red they often turn to drugs, alcohol, illicit sex, they become angry and bitter and that's because life has withdrawn her more checks than there's been a deposit for in her heart.

THE SCOOP: There are so many single parent women. What should these women be telling their daughters?

BISHOP JAKES: I think the greatest struggle for a woman who's left to become a single parent is to be healed enough so that she doesn't pass her frustrations, her biases, her prejudices etc., on to her children. It's very difficult to teach people, while divorcing yourself from your own pain. If a woman doesn't do that, she will pass on an infected kind of wisdom to her children. Especially a daughter, which will often cause her to repeat the same mistakes her mother made. It's very important that a single mother doesn't pass on to her daughter any negative feelings about men, any fears about men or any inhibitions about men. Single mothers should pass on to their daughters a whole new perspective with an open opportunity to allow that girl to have her own experiences without them being filtered through the eyes of her mother's pain.

THE SCOOP: What advice do you have for the business women?

BISHOP JAKES: I discuss this in great detail in my book also. But it's important for this woman to make money but not pursue the money. A woman shouldn't become so pained in the pursuit of the money that she doesn't recognize the wholeness of other issues. You can't take money too seriously. The whole rea-

son that I mentioned the woman in Proverbs 31 is because she owned property, she had merchants bringing her goods but she still had a family life. The stronger a woman is in her career, the more she has to have down time. Career and business women need to be good to themselves, develop hobbies, interact with others with like interests. Women should be careful not to allow money to consume them. If so they'll catch the "male disease." That's the mistake so many men have made which has caused us to be miserable. It caused us to die at too early an age. We have more heart attacks. And we've become more prone to having affairs and nervous breakdowns. As women move more into a man's arena in the business world, I caution them to please, please avoid our diseases and mistakes.

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URMCMV

Health Calendar

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Senior Center will offer free blood pressure readings for seniors beginning at 11:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

NEWARK—Beth Israel Hospital will hold a free health fair at the hospital campus beginning at 1 p.m. (973) 626-7175

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital will host a lecture on cancer and stress beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 833-3186

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

BELMAR—Cronin's & Collins Foundation of America will host a five mile walk at the Belmar Boardwalk beginning at 7:30 a.m. (732) 556-1242

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

JERSEY CITY—Greenville Hospital will offer free prostate screenings for men beginning 3 p.m. (201) 547-6100

EDISON—The JFK Medical Center will hold screenings for prostate cancer beginning at 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital will host a lecture on Integrative Medicine in the 21st Century. Where are We Going beginning at 11 a.m. (201) 837-1850

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital will host a program on the new treatments for cancer pain beginning at 11 a.m. (201) 833-3186

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

JERSEY CITY—Emergency Medical Services(EMS) Training Center at the Meadowlands Hospital will have open enrollment for courses on EMT training at 7:30 p.m. (201) 324-5000

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

PLAINFIELD—The Senior Center will hold meetings on alcohol and seniors with Municipal Alliance Group on Drug and Alcohol beginning at 10:30 a.m. (908) 793-5506

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

PRINCETON—The New Jersey Chapter of the American Anorexia/Bulimia Association will hold its 10th professional conference on the disease at the NJ Hospital Association beginning at 8 a.m. (609) 665-5332

Families fight together for children's mental health

By Maria Wright Edelman

Almost 10 years ago, about 20 parents met in one of their basements to talk about how to make a difference for their children and all children who have serious emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders. Together they formed what would become the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health. Headquarters in Alexandria, Va., this grassroots effort has grown to encompass over 100 state organizations and chapters serving families of diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. All their staff in Alexandria and nearly all who run state programs are members of families who have experienced a troubled child or adolescent. "That's our success," says Barbara Huff, the executive director and first president of the Federation. "We can relate to prob-

lems encountered by families."

In 1992, the Annie E. Casey Foundation joined with the Federation to fund a program called the Urban Children's Mental Health Initiative. This program goes into disadvantaged neighborhoods to demonstrate to families and professionals ways to deliver high quality, culturally appropriate, and family-based mental health services. A large part of the work is training parents to become advocates for their own children and for all children. The Federation teaches parents to take leadership roles in their community, to form collaborative relationships with professionals, and to be informed about federal, state, and local policies that affect their children and families.

Learning to confront the inflexibility and lack of responsiveness of service systems' and health insurers

is a big help to many. Out-of-home placements for children are often the first option and sometimes the only option considered by insurance companies and doctors. The Federation gives families tools to fight for the choice to raise their children at home and the courage to fight for community and financial supports to help them do that.

The Federation's statement of philosophy says the focus where it belongs is on the children. It reminds us that children and adolescents with serious emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders are people first and members of a family. Parents must be viewed as team experts about their child's welfare, and decisions about the child's life and welfare should remain in the family's control. Families and professionals must respect the individuality, rights, and strengths of the

children. Services for them must be affordable, accessible, available, appropriate, and based on need, regardless of the family's ability to pay. Training of professionals, including child care providers, must be improved. And finally, "families and doctors need to have and dream about what might be" for these children.

The Federation's 10th annual conference will get underway Sept. 12 in Washington, D.C. Its first conference a decade ago was attended by 75 people concerned about children with serious emotional or mental problems. The registration for this year's conference is just over 900. That's 900 people willing to work to make a difference in the lives of these children. What an accomplishment! If you're interested in attending the conference or obtaining other information, you can contact them at

1021 Prince Street, Alexandria, Va., 22314; (703) 684-7110, or visit their web site at www.fcmh.org.

Their work goes on and on: counselors to expand in numbers served and in scope. Today the members of the Federation across the country are dealing with prevention and treatment of substance abuse in children and adolescents; mental health and child welfare services, or the lack thereof, in their communities; the juvenile justice system; and education issues. They are a wonderful example of what can happen when concerned and committed people join together to take a stand for children.

Maria Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund and a working committee member of the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC).

City kids get regular access to health care

NEWARK—Just months after it was officially unveiled during an outdoor ceremony at Newark's Unified Vailsburg Daycare Center, The New Jersey Health Project is fast becoming a familiar sight in Newark, Elizabeth and surrounding communities.

The New Jersey Children's Health Project is a big blue mobile health van that makes weekly stops at designated sites in Newark and Elizabeth for parents and children in need of primary healthcare services. Since mid-April, the van's medical team has handled more than 400 pediatric patient visits. The mobile health van will eventually travel to other locations in Essex and Union counties.

The project is the result of a partnership of Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Schering-Plough Corporation, based in Madison, N.J., and the Children's Health Fund. Witnessing an urgent need for primary health care for children that exists in Newark and surrounding communities, the three organizations collaborated to make this 35-foot fully-equipped mobile medical unit a reality this spring.

"This unique partnership has a distinct mission — to further our

commitment to the children of New Jersey by bringing the finest medical care directly to those in need," said Ronald J. Del Mauro, President and CEO of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System. "Our goal is to become their most reliable source for the highest quality health care."

Staffed by a Children's Hospital of New Jersey pediatrician, a nurse, a medical technician and a driver who is also an EMT, the van has two treatment rooms, a waiting and registration area and a bathroom. The brightly-decorated rooms are painted in primary colors.

"Parents appreciate the convenience of the mobile health van. It's close — they can come right out of their homes and we're right here," explained Michael Doyle, M.D., pediatrician and medical director of the NJ Children's Health Project. Besides providing families with convenient access to comprehensive pediatric medical care, the project's sponsors are working together to combat the particular health issues of the region's children, which include asthma, upper respiratory disorders, lead poisoning, delayed immunizations, ear infections, tuberculosis and nutritionally related anemia.

According to the NJ State Department of Health, the number

of asthma deaths in the state more than doubled from 63 in 1980 to 137 in 1990. Newark and Elizabeth were especially affected due to asthma cases and deaths. Essex and Union counties also showed a large incidence of lead poisoning with 711 reported cases among children in Newark, 137 in Elizabeth, 173 in Irvington and 59 in Elizabethtown. Essex County alone had a total of 1,414 reported cases, a startling comparison to 97 reported cases in Bergen County. Both Essex and Union counties also have exceptionally large numbers of children with ear infections, respiratory infections and nutritional and metabolic disorders.

The New Jersey Children's Health Project currently makes regular stops, Monday through Friday, at the following locations in Newark: Unified Vailsburg Daycare Center on Smith Street near South Orange Ave., Stella Wright Housing Development at 159 Spruce St., and Friendly Field Neighborhood House, 165 Court St. In Elizabeth the vans stop at Mravlag Manor, Bayway and Clarkson Avenues, and Mighore Manor, Pine and Front Streets. For a current listing of the exact days and times the van makes these regular stops, please call (763) 216-6000 or (973) 926-4805.



Pictured in front of The New Jersey Children's Health Project mobile health van at the recent dedication are, from left to right, Irwin Redner, M.D., president and co-founder of The Children's Health Fund, Richard J. Kogan, president and CEO of Schering-Plough Corporation, Ronald J. Del Mauro, president and CEO, Saint Barnabas Health Care System; Michael Doyle, M.D., the project's medical director and Newark Mayor Sharpe James.

Delicious and nutritious fast food

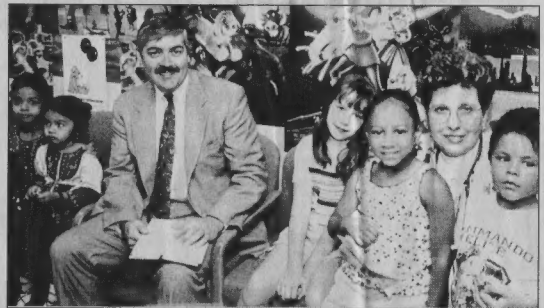
By Marilyn Johnson Kowdwan

The next time you are looking for a new fast food, don't forget fresh vegetables and fruits. The National Dietetic Council recommends that we consume at least five servings each day of fruits and vegetables. Since we are in the middle of summer prices are lower and there is almost an unlimited variety of fresh fruits and vegetables from which to choose.

Naturally loaded with vitamins, minerals, and life sustaining fiber, fresh fruits and vegetables are nature's remedy for almost every ailment. While some health conditions restrict unlimited intake of fresh fruits and veggies, for most of us there is nothing so delicious as biting into a crisp fresh red delicious apple or savoring the sweet juices of a ripe plum, peach, or nectarine. Best of all, they are low in calories and fat free, so you can eat as many as you want.

In today's busy society we often eat on the run. We don't have time to think about eating foods that will promote our health and longevity. Eating fast foods loaded with fats, sugar, and salt is so common that it should be no surprise that we are often obese, depressed and generally unhealthy. Eating fresh fruits and vegetables is a delicious, and delicious opportunity to use your food as medicine.

Eating organically grown fruits and vegetables are good. Increasing the effectiveness of the food you eat with vitamins and food supplements decreases the risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, diabetes, and other serious diseases. It is best to avoid canned vegetables. They've already lost much of their nutrients and are due to the canning process and sitting on the shelf. If you can get fresh vegetables, frozen are second best.



Union County Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan holds an immunization checklist and the Center's Pediatric coordinator, Kay Young R.N. M.S., holds on her lap Denise Dent and Joel Davier of Elizabeth, as they get ready to immunized at the Union County Division of Social Services/RUNNELS Specialized Hospital Immunization Center. Also waiting to get their shots are, from left, sisters Helen and Celin Mammen of Elizabeth and Amanda Kube of Linden.

Free immunization for Union County children

ELIZABETH — School has started and mom and dad and the kids are making their list of things to do and bring for these first weeks. Among the things on your "To Do" list should be immunization shots. Did the kids get them when they were born? Maybe, maybe not, but why take a chance? Bring your children to Union County's Division of Social Services/RUNNELS Specialized Hospital Immunization Center, located at 342 Westminster Ave., announced Union County Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan.

"Any child that lives in Union County can get immunized at our center free of charge, no appointment necessary, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Parents or

guardians should bring previous immunization records if they have them."

Freeholder Chairman Sullivan said. "Kay Young, R.N., M.S., is the coordinator of the center, which she has covered with colorful posters, any of them Disney characters, and the children just love it. Bring in your children to our immunization center, since they need to be

protected from diseases that can potentially be fatal."

The 10 potentially fatal diseases that children should be immunized against are: measles, mumps, rubella (German measles), chicken pox, polio, hepatitis B, tetanus (lockjaw), diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and influenza type B.

The Federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) states that many children under three, and even proper immunization. Many schools require children to be immunized in order to attend. Check with your school to find out if immunization is required. The vaccines for Union County's Immunization Center are funded through the N.J. Department of Health from the Federal Immunization Program of the CDC. U.S. Dept. Of Health.

Urban League joins fight against breast cancer

WASHINGTON — In an effort to educate African American women about the importance of mammography, Food Marketing Institute (FMI), in collaboration with other organizations, has developed the Take a Step Toward Good Health brochure.

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among African American women with 181,600 cases expected this year. While black women are less likely than white women to develop breast cancer, they are more likely to die from the disease.

FMI, National Cancer Institute, National Urban League, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) produced this brochure about the significance of regular mammography in the early detection of breast cancer. The brochure stresses the importance of maintaining good health and also the Medicare coverage on mammograms.

"FMI compliments the White House for their commitment to combat breast cancer, and we are pleased to be a part of this important educational effort," says Tim Hannimonds, FMI president and CEO.

"Mammograms, along with regular clinical breast exams, are the most effective ways to detect breast cancer at its earliest stages," says Hugh B. Price, president and CEO, National Urban League. "The

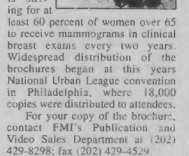
National Urban League is committed to women's health issues and communicating information to its audience."

The Take a Step Toward Good Health brochure is one means of reaching out and emphasizing the importance of regular mammography.

HHS is striving for at least 60 percent of women over 65 to receive mammograms in clinical breast exams every two years. Widespread distribution of the brochures began at this year's National Urban League convention in Philadelphia, where 18,000 copies were distributed to attendees.

For your copy of the brochure, contact FMI's Publication and Video Sales Department at (202) 429-8298, fax (202) 429-4529.

Take a Step Toward Good Health



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Billboard

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

MONTICLO: AIR—The Monticlor Air Museum will host the works of African-American artist William H. Johnson through Sunday beginning at 5 p.m. (973) 745-9118

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

NEW YORK—Jazz at the Lincoln Center (JLC) will present pianist and jazz legend Hank Jones in the opening of its 1998-99 JAZZ JAZZ series, "Hank Jones Meets Hank Jones," in Alice Tully Hall. The concert will feature a pair of jazz artists.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

NEW BRUNSWICK—George Street Play House will present the play "The American" by William H. Johnson through Sunday. Call (973) 593-0189 for time.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

MAHWAH—The Universal Declaration of Human Rights will host a discussion and discussion of many international political events at the Potter Library at Ramapo College beginning at 5 p.m. (201) 529-7502

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

NEWARK—Actor and stand-up comedian George Carlin will perform at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) with special guest Elaine Star beginning at 7:30 p.m. (973) 593-5838

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University will present "Remembrance: A play in the Studio Theatre" beginning at 2 p.m. (973) 656-4333

FENICKS—The Holy Name Hospital presents "The Holy Name Hospital" at the Fenick's University of the Sacred Heart campus beginning at 7:30 p.m. (201) 933-3186

Frankie Lymon's story hits the silver screen

By Linda Deutsch
AP Special Correspondent

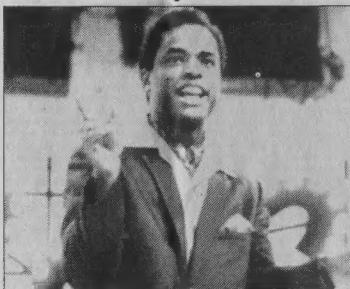
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Only a handful of movies have captured the excitement and unique character of the era that created rock 'n' roll. "The Idolmaker" and "The Buddy Holly Story" come to mind.

But few seem to have told it as well as Gregory Nava's new film, a movie that might seem the least likely candidate to go beyond its character-driven story and give us insight into the cultural changes mirrored by music in the 1950s and 1960s.

Why *Do Fools Fall in Love* is the story of Frankie Lymon (Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers) and the tangled, tragic path his life took after dazzling success with the title song and a string of other hits.

The dramatic vehicle is an intriguing true story. Three women came forward after Lymon's death, each claiming to be the rightful widow of the singing star and seeking royalties on the still popular songs. Each claim was questionable, and the matter wound up in a bitterly fought court case. We meet them at the start of this battle.

Through testimony and flashbacks,



Larenz Tate portrays Frankie Lymon in this Warner Bros. film. Shown here is a recreation of Lymon's performance on the TV show "Hullabaloo."

we learn about Lymon's rise and fall from superstardom to drug addiction and his involvements with three beautiful but very different women.

The female leads, the gorgeous Halle Berry as singing star Zola Taylor of The Platters, Vivica A. Fox as a down-on-her-knee shoplifter and Lela

Rochon as a prim school teacher, turn in rich, multi-layered performances.

In a telling moment during a break in court proceedings, one "wife" says to another, "You didn't seem like Frankie's type." The third "wife" chimes in, "It seems every woman was Frankie's type." And therein lies the tale.

The most powerful expression of the era's excitement comes in an amazing cameo appearance by Little Richard whose performance as a trial witness is almost as show stopping as his singing style.

Gregory Nava, who directed the musical biography "Selena," brings out the best in all of his stars, not the least of whom is Larenz Tate in the title role. Handsome, energetic and appealing, the young Frankie, the actor, who last appeared as Kevin Costner's sidekick in "The Postman," projects a magnetism that explains each woman's overwhelming attraction to him. And his lip syncing of Lymon's songs is perfect.

But Tate's transformation into a drug-addicted loser is less convincing, relying heavily on makeup to get the message across. *Why Do Fools Fall in Love* is a Warner Bros. release.

Al in the family



George DeCuir (right), interviewed by filmmaker Macky Alston, at a black Alston family reunion in Chapel Hill, NC.

NEW YORK — As a young child growing up in North Carolina, Macky Alston thought that it was unusual that many of his African-American elementary school classmates shared his last name. For years, questions put to his family on the topic remained unanswered until his father, a civil rights leader and minister, gave Alston a book detailing the history of their family. The Alstons, he learned, were slave-owning families in antebellum North Carolina. *Family Name*, Alston's award-winning debut film, chronicles the surprising twists and turns of his search for the descendants of the slaves and slave owners who lived on the plantations once owned by his family.

In 1997, *Family Name* won the Freedom of Expression Award at the Sundance Film Festival and the IPP "Open Palm" Award for best debut feature film. P.O.V., public television's annual award-winning showcase for independent non-fiction films, will broadcast *Family Name* nationally on Tuesday, September 15, 1998 at 10 pm (ET) on PBS (check local listings).

During one of his first visits to North Carolina, he quickly discovers that there are two Alston family reunions: one white and one black, held during the same week, only a few miles apart from each other.

"Nobody at either reunion had any idea that the other was taking place," Alston marvels at the state of *Family Name*. With a film crew in tow, he attends both gatherings, to meet and talk with as many Alstons as he can.

Scoop Du Jour



By Asandra Hunter

the sometimes actor was repeatedly told that he should take his rapin' more seriously. Silk likes to keep his private life private. For instance, he won't tell us whether or not he has a wife and kids (some things must be kept secret), but he does tell us that he likes kids almost as much as he likes performing cuts from his new album, *Charge It 2 Da Game*.

CN: Tell our readers about your hometown. I got a chance to go to New Orleans not too long ago to see The Big Tymers perform and I must admit that I saw some bad parts. The projects look like they should have been torn down.

Silk: They look even worse when shooting is going on. I love my hometown though and when we were young, you couldn't tell us that the projects didn't look good, because we didn't know any better, it used to be a party city when I was a kid, but now it's the murder capital of the world. When Mardi Gras is going on, it's crazy as hell out here. Just to be walking around in the French Quarter is a risk, all kinds of stuff be goes on down there.

CN: Who gave you the nickname Silk the Shock? And are we supposed to call you Silk or Shock?

Silk: You can call me Silk. I got the name from a friend and people started calling me Silk because I had a smooth little flow. First it was Silk with an "K," but there was the R&B group with the same name and so I had to change mine. The Shocka part came because of the title of my first album. I

guess folks think I shock people with my true-life lyrics.

CN: Why now do you think the movie is ready to accept you country brodus on the mic? There was a time when anything country was a bad thing. Now, people can't get enough of anything Southern. The South is being revealed as some hot place to be right now.

Silk: That's true. I guess one thing that kept people from accepting us right off was our speech. We don't do anybody—neither the East or the West—and we got love for anybody who got love for us. So, it was only a matter of time. We have dang in our lyrics that was only understood in our local area and now that everyone is starting to understand our lyrics, our albums are the hot item in record stores.

CN: When are you going to get a chance to show off your acting skills?

Silk: I was supposed to be in *Snoo's* movie, *The Game of Life*, which is supposed to be like an autobiography of his life, but I couldn't do it, because of my touring schedule. It's coming out in the winter. And then there's *P*, my new movie. *P* is the star of that one, but I get to play a high school student. Before you know it, I start selling drugs and I get all caught up in the life and then I start killing people. The good life doesn't last forever, because he goes to jail and I end up going off to college. So acting is one of the things I'm doing in my career and I'm looking forward to doing a lot more.

What is the Farrakhan factor?

NEW YORK — For the first time, African-American intellectuals and writers come together to address the myths and realities surrounding Minister Louis Farrakhan. One of the most provocative and controversial figures in America today, in *The Farrakhan Factor* (Grover Press), the timely anthology edited by Amy Alexander.

On the surface, Louis Farrakhan is many things to many people. He is a lightning rod for blacks and whites in America - liberal and conservative, Jewish and Christian, straight and gay. And he is a fiery, charismatic orator embraced by a generation of young African-American men coming of age with little hope. A man who demands that African-American men take responsibility for themselves and their families. An egotistical performer who craves the spotlight.

These sixteen divergent pieces from academics, community activists, poets, journalists, and historians, including current and former members of the Nation of Islam and an introduction by Alexander ask a highly-charged question: Does Louis Farrakhan really speak for the majority of African-Americans at the end of the century?

In one volume, Ernest Allen Jr. provides a history of the NOI; Michael Eise-Dyson illuminates the means by which Farrakhan was formed for a leadership role; and Aminah Beverly M. Cloud puts the NOI firmly in the context of global Islamic practice.

Gwendolyn Brooks and Henry Louis Gates Jr. offer profiles of the man and his many contradictions. Erna Smith examines mainstream media coverage of the often quoted Farrakhan while Julianne Malveaux examines the viability of the NOI's economic model.

Fahizah Alim, turn inward, looking back on her membership in the NOI, and Salim Mwakali, a longtime contributing editor of *Muhammad Speaks*, examines the NOI's leadership from the 1960s to today. In her piece, Alim writes about the rift the Farrakhan controversy has created within black families and churches.

As Joseph Marshall Jr. says, "I think the media should be able to give us credit for being able to separate the wheat from the chaff." Sure to be as talked about as the man himself, *The Farrakhan Factor* is a document of American racial politics in the late twentieth century.

Silk the Shock

Silk the Shocka has had some bad days, done a few things he doesn't care to acknowledge on record and he's spent some time locked up. How much time? He won't say, but all of his tribulations can be charged to the game, 'cuz when you're playing to win, every now and then a baller's got to take a few turns and bumps.

Master P signed his brother, who's in voice comes across as smooth as hand-sun silk on wax, to his No Limit Records (the label also records C-Murder, Mia X, Smokey Dogg, MAC, Mercedes, Kane and Abel and others) after

Galleries join to benefit Africa



PLAINFIELD — On Saturday, September 12, the Mojo Gallery will present the "Art for Africa" Relief Exhibition. The exhibition is a joint effort between the Mojo Gallery in Plainfield and the Payya Paa Art Center in Nairobi, Kenya to raise funds for the victims of the U.S. Embassy bombings on August 7th in Kenya.

Reverend LaVerne Bell, pastor of Rose Sharon Church in Plainfield, has been asked to work with Mojo on this project. Reverend Bell is requesting that all churches join together in this time of need to lend and spiritual support to the victims and families of the bombings in Kenya.

Just days before the opening of the "Mojo" Gallery earlier this month, tragedy shocked the world with terrorist attacks in Kenya and Tanzania. "After reading about the bombings, I wanted the gallery to have a greater purpose. I wanted to do something personally," said James Venable, curator of the gallery. "Art for Africa" was born when the gallery contacted former Plainfield resident Phillipa Ragland-Njiru and her husband Rukhshana Njiru, owners of the Payya Paa Art Center in Nairobi, Kenya.

Together the two galleries have outlined an initiative to support a joint effort entitled, "Out of the Ashes-Never Again." Portions of the proceeds from the sale of art donated by participating artists will be sent to the Payya Paa Art Center to be distributed directly to the people affected by the bombing. The "Art for Africa" Relief Exhibition will be held from 4 pm to 8 pm on Saturday, September 12. For more information, call (908) 755-8244.

James Venable is the curator of the "Mojo" Gallery in Plainfield. Shown above is a photo of an African mask on display at the gallery.

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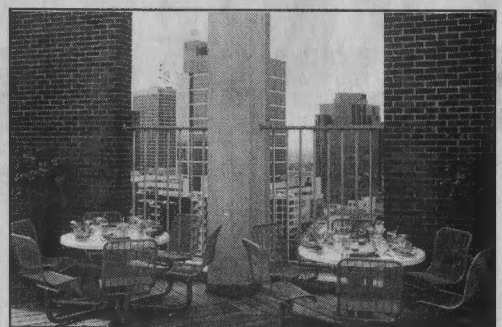
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The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (NHA) will receive sealed bids for the following materials:

- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 9:30 A.M.
98-B13291 ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 10:15 A.M.
98-B13271 LUMBER SUPPLIES
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 11:00 A.M.
98-B13291 AUTOMOTIVE PARTS & ACCESSORIES
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 11:45 A.M.
98-B13291 LOCKING HARDWARE
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 1:00 P.M.
98-B13301 MASONRY SUPPLIES
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 1:45 P.M.
98-B13311 OFFICE SUPPLIES
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 2:30 P.M.
98-B13321 WELDING SUPPLIES
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 3:00 P.M.
98-B13301 RANGES & ASSOCIATED PARTS
- ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998 AT 3:30 P.M.
98-B13341 REFRIGERATORS & ASSOCIATED PARTS
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 9:30 A.M.
98-B13351 RESIDENTIAL CABINETS
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 10:30 A.M.
98-B13361 WINDOW SHAKES & VINYL SLIDERS
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 11:30 A.M.
98-B13371 SHOW REMOVAL SUPPLIES
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 10:00 A.M.
98-B13381 ROLL-UP STEEL DOORS
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 10:30 A.M.
98-B13391 WINDOW & GLASS SUPPLY
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 11:00 A.M.
98-B13401 XEROGRAPHICS DUAL PURPOSE PAPER
- ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 AT 2:00 P.M.
98-B13411 PLUMBING & HEAT SUPPLIES

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number and will be addressed and received on the above dates by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 575 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07102 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bid Specifications for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of the NHA at the said address. Telephone: 973-450-0255.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975 c. 127 Alternative Action Program.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The NHA reserves the right to reject any partial bid, and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

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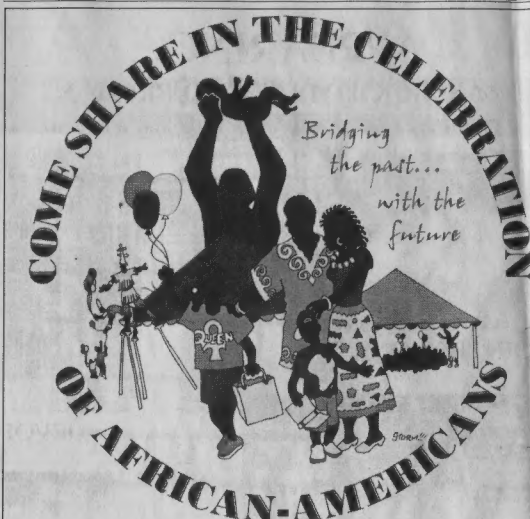
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Arts & Heritage Festival benefits students and seniors

10,000 expected at Arts Center in Holmdel

HOLMDEL — The Eleventh Annual Festival of the Arts and Heritage of African-Americans will be held on September 12, 1998 at the PNC Center in Holmdel from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Festival, which is one of 12 benefits senior citizens, school children, the disabled and the economically disadvantaged. The proceeds from the African-American Festival will provide college scholarships for graduating high school seniors.

Some of the recipients of these scholarships are currently attending several historically black colleges including Hampton University and Florida A&M University. Through the years, the Festival has given out

scholarships to over 30 graduates. This year the festival will honor 10 additional graduates from high schools throughout the state.

The festival provides activities for the entire family, with a variety of Afrocentric vendors specializing in art, fabric, books and ethnic foods. For entertainment there will be a special concert Positive Rap and Jazz groups. Also, a full range of African music and dance will be featured. The awards ceremony highlights the day and health fair will also be in progress. Many non profit groups that help the community will also be visible.

The African-American Festival has provided the community with

many educational and enriching experiences. Shirley Macon, 1998 General Chairperson, sees this year's festival attracting more than 10,000 people, making it the largest on in the state. "This year's theme 'Bridging the Past with the Future' reflects the importance of family values and history of the past to ensure the stability and success of the future," she said. Macon, along with her committee members urge everyone to come share in this celebration of African-American which is a true family experience! Something for everyone in the family. For tickets and information, please call (732) 294-8897.

New Jersey number one in bias crimes

By Wendy Ruderman

TRENTON (AP) — In Cumberland County, a six-foot cross erected in the driveway of an interracial couple is set alight. In Mercer County, a 100-foot swastika is carved neatly into a cornfield. In Burlington County, an eight-foot wooden swastika is staked in the yard of a black family. All within a few months.

All are classified as hate crimes, and New Jersey has one of the highest rates in the nation. According to state Attorney General Peter Verniero. But he says the state's diligence in reporting bias crimes might be as much a factor as

their actual frequency.

Last year, police in New Jersey reported 181 cases of swastikas being scrawled on homes, schools and religious and government buildings.

Of 807 incidents classified as "bias crimes," 53 percent were against blacks, 26 percent targeted Jewish people and five percent hit Hispanics, according to the state crime report.

"We are high on the list of bias crimes because we do such a good job reporting bias crimes," Verniero said. "It inflates the ranking and, frankly, that's a tradeoff I'm willing to have because I can't fight bias crime unless it's reported."

This year, the state ordered all

police departments to begin reporting hate crimes to the state police on a monthly basis. A year later, the first hate-crime statistics were published.

The rate is a useful tool, experts say, but they caution against taking it as face value.

Some swastikas are created by kids who don't know what the symbol means but know they'll get a red-hot reaction said Kenneth Stern, an anti-Semitism and extremism expert.

While teen pranksters may account for a significant percentage of bias-crime incidents, New Jersey does have pockets of hate groups, said Sgt. Al Della Fave of the state police. They're tracked by undercover detectives.

Public school rejects unvaccinated girl

But now the public school district she has been enrolled in since kindergarten is refusing her as well.

Her mother, Angi Metler, was told Tuesday by a guidance counselor at the school that Sarah would not be admitted without her shots.

"It has never even been a problem before," Angi Metler said.

"Next week my daughter is not going to school at all," she said. "She's a bit sad. She's very upset."

Superintendent of Schools Daniel Rodriguez said a Board of Education policy approved in February after a tuberculosis scare at one elementary school demands immunizations for all students.

"(Sarah Metler) was granted a religious exemption prior to the increase in

tuberculosis cases and a suspected case here," Rodriguez said.

Angi Metler said the family cannot afford another lawyer to fight the Board of Education. She said she has asked the state attorney general to act on her behalf to enforce the state law allowing exemptions from immunizations requirements for religious reasons.

However, questions arose last week about the validity of Metler's religious exemption, when the Catholic Church's attorney, Harry Hill of Trenton, said in court that the girl had converted to Catholicism in April. The Catholic Church does not oppose immunizations.

Angi Metler said she did not realize the two faiths conflicted and said her daughter is "very confused." "She wants to follow her own spiritual beliefs,"

Fraud by out-of-state company halted

NEWARK — A Utah company has entered into an agreement with New Jersey and three other states to stop making false and misleading claims about a Polystyrene fruit drink it marketed as having the healing powers of a wonder drug.

Attorney General Peter Verniero and New Jersey Division of consumer Affairs Director Mark S. Herr announced today.

The agreement comes after the states investigated Morinda, Inc., of Lindon, Utah, and its claims that a health product it was selling, Tahitian Nona, could cure treat and prevent such physical ailments as arthritis, diabetes and hemorrhoids. The states alleged that the Morinda's claims were not only unsubstantiated, but were also false and misleading to consumers. The states further alleged that Morinda marketed the beverage, not as a food, but as a drug, although the U.S.

Food and Drug Administration had not approved it as a drug.

Under the terms of the recently filed agreement, Morinda will stop selling the Tahitian Nona as a drug with purported healing powers and will pay the states a total of \$100,000. New Jersey's share is \$25,000 and will be used to cover the cost of the state's investigation and consumer education program.

"We take very seriously acts of deception and fraud," Verniero said. "When companies or individuals violate our laws, we move to take action against them, as we have done in this matter."

"This case makes clear our position concerning advertising practices of companies: When you make a claim, you must be prepared to substantiate it," Herr said. "If you can't prepare to be prosecuted."

155 school districts still in negotiations

TRENTON — One hundred and fifty-five school boards are still negotiating with their teachers unions over contracts for the 1998-99 school year, a figure on par with that of previous years, according to data released today by the New Jersey School Boards Association.

This year, 217 of the state's 593 operating school districts have been negotiating new agreements to begin the 1998-99 school year. Of those 217 districts, 155 are still in negotiations. Last year, 197 districts were negotiating new agreements to begin in 1997-98. At this time last year, 123 of those 197 had not settled.

"Students and parents should not be alarmed by the number of contracts still unsettled," assured NJSBA Executive Director Dr. Robert E. Boose. "It is not unusual for the school year to begin with a large number of districts still in negotiations."

Traditionally, September and October are the months where we see a large number of school districts settle.

Boose noted that if a district has not settled on a new contract, employees are covered by the terms of the old contract.

"While negotiations continue, teachers are paid, and they receive the benefits and all the protection contained in the previous contract," he explained. "In reality, public school employees never 'work without a contract' in New Jersey."

"Even in a robust economy, local school boards are under heavy pressure from their communities to control costs," Boose continued. He pointed to the concerns of local property taxpayers and tightening state budget caps as reasons for this concern. "Our latest statistics indicate that boards continue to make progress in controlling costs."

Average salary increases for recently settled agreements are 3.80 percent, NJSBA reports. That average is based on agreements for the 1998-99 school year that was finalized in the first half of 1998. This is in line with last year's average settlement rates which reflected a tremendous drop in salary increases from the beginning of the decade.

"Over the years, salary increases for teachers have been falling

more into line with those in the private sector," said Boose.

Containing the costs of providing health insurance benefits has been another major concern for boards of education throughout the decade, and many boards are negotiating changes that reflect benefits in the private sector. Approximately one-half of all teacher contract settlements contain some form of new health insurance cost containment, including increased prescription co-payments, increased deductibles and employee contributions to the basic medical plan.

About 25 percent of school boards report negotiating some type of change in the school day or school year that results in teachers spending more time with students or meeting more often with parents. These changes include extending the school day, adding additional days to the school year, and requiring a greater number of parent-teacher conferences.

The continuing education negotiations process to achieve educational goals," said Boose. "We expect instructional time to continue to be an important issue for boards."

With this year's negotiations, some boards will begin to see the state's new continuing education requirements raising issues at the bargaining table, according to NJSBA. Under these regulations, adopted by the state Board of Education in May, teachers must complete 100 hours of training every five years.

The continuing education proposal could affect bargaining areas as tuition reimbursement, movement on the salary guide and additional work time, according to Boose. "A limited number of school districts are already feeling the impact of the continuing education proposal. We anticipate it will have a greater impact as time goes on," he noted.

"NJSBA will help school boards prepare to address this issue at the bargaining table and reach mutually acceptable agreements with their employees," said Boose. He noted that the Association's labor relations training, consultation and publications are stressing the impact of the continuing education requirements on negotiations.

making an Impact

As a former teacher, it's no surprise Lorette De Luz, Ph.D., helps prepare neighborhood students for college. Although she owns three McDonald's in Wilmington, Delaware, she also finds time to get involved in the community on a state and national level. Lorette mentors minority student athletes for college and helps to feed the homeless through annual programs she helped establish as External Vice President of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association. Her team in the potential of even person makes a difference in the lives of everyone Lorette touches.

Reggie Webb makes a world of difference in people's lives everyday. As President of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association, he helps get minority vendors into the McDonald's system, helping African-American businesses to succeed. Owning five McDonald's in southern California keeps Reggie busy, too, but he's never too busy to help someone else achieve their dream of success.

did somebody say ?

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